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HH the Amir talks with Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal (centre) as Sheikh Sabah looks on.

Momentum builds for settlement

Saud Al Faisal carries message in Gulf shuttle

JEDDAH, July 28, (Agencies): Saudi Arabian Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal delivered messages from King Fahd to the rulers of Kuwait and Iraq today as the kingdom pushed to get the two sides to the negotiating table.

Diplomatic sources said they believed the messages contained invitations from the Saudi monarch to Kuwait's HH the Crown Prince-Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah and the Iraqi second-in-command Ezzat Ibrahim to meet in Jeddah. HH the Amir Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed Al Sabah received at noon today the Saudi foreign

minister who conveyed a letter from the Saudi monarch to the Amir. Details of the letter were not disclosed.

The meeting was attended by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed Al Jaber Al Sabah, Foreign Undersecretary Suleiman Majed Al Shaheen and the Saudi ambassador to Kuwait Abdulla Abdulaziz Al Sudairy.

HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister also received at his diwan in Bayan Palace in the afternoon the Saudi foreign minister.

Iraqi President Saddam Hussein also today received a verbal message from Saudi monarch, the Iraqi News Agency reported.

It said that the message was delivered by Saudi foreign minister in the presence of Iraqi Deputy Premier, Foreign Minister Tareq Aziz, but did not elaborate on its contents.

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak today received a phone call from Saudi monarch, a presidential palace spokesman said.

King Fahd had received a phone call from President Mubarak yesterday within the framework of their consultations to achieve Arab solidarity and ensure the Arab nation's interests.

Faisal's mission was preceded by an official Saudi statement welcoming a "bilateral meeting between representatives of Iraq and Kuwait in Jeddah over the coming few days. God willing, to thrash out all differences through fraternal and cordial dialogue."

(Continued on Page 8)

Muslim rebels threaten to blow up Trinidad premier

PORT-OF-SPAIN, July 28, (Reuters): Black Muslim extremists staging a coup attempt in Trinidad and Tobago have wired the country's prime minister to explosives and planned to blow him up if loyal forces try to free him and other hostages, a senior church official said today.

Roman Catholic Archbishop Anthony Panin said Yasir Abu Bakr, leader of the Muslim group that

seized and have held the officials in the Parliament building since Friday evening, had told him Prime Minister A.N.R. Robinson and 11 other hostages would die if attempts were made to storm the rebels' stronghold.

Abu Bakr said he has them wired up and will fire them, Panin said in a state radio broadcast shortly after meeting with the rebel leader.

Panin said the situation was "very grim" and Bakr and his armed supporters appeared to be losing patience at the stand-off.

Troops on Saturday surrounded the Parliament building where the radical Jamaat Al Muslimeen group launched the coup in which 25 people have been killed.

Witnesses said parts of the capital were ablaze and there was sporadic firing going on between forces loyal

to the government and supporters of the black Muslim group.

The Caribbean News Agency (Cana) quoted hospital sources as saying about 22 people, including several police officers, had been killed in gunfights between the two sides since the coup began.

See Page 4

Quake survivors recount ordeal

Miracle man, woman

BAGUIO, Philippines, July 28, (Agencies): The miracle man and woman of the devastating earthquake that killed more than 1,600 people recounted today how they survived 11 days underneath a crumbled hotel by drinking their urine and rainwater, officials said.

Philippine miners burrowing through tons of concrete slabs and twisted steel in the flattened Hyatt terraces hotel under tropical downpours retrieved last night Arnel Calabia, 27, security guard, and Luisa Mallorca, 21, a casino employee.

"They said they survived by drinking their urine. The workers found a cup near them which they apparently used," said government spokesman Horacio Paredes.

"At times, they said they drank rainwater seeping through the ruins. They said they spent the days talking to each other and praying. They never gave up hope," said Paredes.

Doctors said Calabia and Mallorca were in stable condition with minor bruises although three of Calabia's fingers may have to be amputated, said doctors at a hospital in the mountain resort of Baguio, 120 miles (200 km) north of Manila.

"Their temperature is normal. There are no signs of serious injury over the long term," said health under-secretary Mario Taguiwalo.

"Mother, father, I am safe," Calabia said in an interview with radio station DZMM. Calabia said he and Mallorca escaped death by dashching under a table in the administration office near the elevator hallway on the third floor of the hotel when the quake rumbled across the main Philippine island of Luzon.

The rescue came after experts from Britain, Japan and Singapore on Sunday gave up hope of finding survivors in 29 buildings that collapsed in Baguio following the July 16 quake measuring 7.7 on the open-ended Richter scale.

The military office of civil defence said the death toll as of Saturday stood at 1,614. Another 1,037 were listed as missing and presumed dead and 3,303 were injured.

Officials said 1.1 million Filipinos either lost their homes or their jobs as a result of the tremor, the worst since a

quake and tidal wave killed more than 3,000 people in the southern Philippines in August 1976.

The military said heavy downpours on Friday caused fresh landslides that crushed a house and killed 10 people, including a family of five, in a village in Caranglan in neighbouring Nueva Ecija province.

Calabia said he and Mallorca were with several other people when the tremor struck.

He said Mallorca yelled, "We should jump out. Somebody said 'no, don't jump. Let's stay here'."

"We hid under the table. Then we did not know what happened next. It was dark. I talked and gong (Mallorca's nickname) talked," Calabia said.

He said throughout his ordeal he was sitting like a driver in a car. He said three others were killed instantly and a companion died on the fourth day.

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Bicycle brigade versus baby brigade in Sri Lanka's war

TIRUKOVIL, Sri Lanka, July 28, (AP): Police commandos on bicycles zig-zag through jungle tracks, dodging landmines in a deadly game of hide-and-seek with teen-age Tamil rebels.

It's the "bicycle brigade," as they call themselves, against the "baby brigade," as young militants of the Tamil Tiger militia are known. Some of them are hardly 12 years old.

"The bicycle tire has more chances of avoiding the buried explosive than a boot. The damage causes less injuries as the blast is cushioned by the bicycle," said senior commando Upali Sahabandu.

The deadly homemade mines are the militants' most successful

weapon against the commandos of the special task force. The mines, which consists of high explosives packed into wooden boxes with two small batteries, have been dubbed Johnnies, dice or batata by the Sri Lankan rebels.

Dozens of commandos have lost their legs to the pressure mines since June 11 when fighting started between the government forces and the separatist Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam.

The government claims its troops now control a 60-kilometre (33-mile) swathe of the eastern coast between Lahugala, south of Tirukovil, and Kalumasi to its north.

Special task force chief Lionel Karunaseena said his Tirukovil unit of 125 men has mastered the art of anticipating rebel moves.

"We know they lay the mines under culverts. We also are fairly accurate on timings and locations and we have busted this operation," he said.

The rebels operate in groups of five to seven to minimise losses. "We do the same. We know their game, they know ours. So we are even," Karunaseena told a group of visiting reporters.

"That is why they avoid tangling with our bicycle brigade or hit us with mines on these roads," he said.

The 2,500-member special task force was trained by former

members of the British Special Air Services (SAS) commando force who banded together to form the Keeni-Meenu Services based in the Chennal Islands.

Tirukovil, a Tamil town of 20,000 people on the eastern coast, was a Tiger stronghold last month. The militants slipped into the jungles early this month when advancing commandos moved in and set up camp in the town's main hospital.

People in the town, 217 kilometres (136 miles) east of Colombo, say that although the troops control the area during day, the rebels return from the jungles to prowl at night.

"A dog's bark in the dark is a sure sign the Tiger rebels are

around. Nobody else moves out at night," said Rev. Thaya Selan, a Tamil Methodist priest.

The commandos say the tak-

ing of Tirukovil, which has ample jungle cover to the west and the Indian Ocean to the right, has dealt a severe blow to

guerrilla operations.

"Tirukovil is vitally located

for jungle-based hit-and-run attacks. Without Tirukovil as a

base ... it will be difficult for the terrorists to launch any campaign to clear government forces in the eastern coast."

Tamil Tigers ambush troop patrol: 14 killed

Government troops searching for land mine-wanded off a Tamil Tiger ambush and killed 14 rebels in eastern Sri Lanka, military officials said yesterday.

One soldier also was killed and six injured in Thursday's fighting near Sankandikulam village in Batticaloa district, 225 kms (140 miles) east of Colombo, the officials said.

In another incident, troops ambushed and shot dead three Tamil rebels in Rottikulam village, 14 kms (9 miles) west of Batticaloa town, said the officials, who cannot be identified under briefing rules.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Ban on film: The ban imposed by the British board of film classification on a Pakistani movie because it criminally libels the author Salman Rushdie has been challenged as unconstitutional, it was reported in London Saturday.

Distribution of the "International Guerrillas" was banned in the UK because it depicts the author of "The Satanic Verses" as a drunk who tortures and shoots Muslims.

The decision provoked an outcry among British Muslims, who said that if the film was banned, the book, which they insist blasphemes Islam, should be too. (Kms)

Minister resigns: Bulgaria's interior minister resigned on Friday as hundreds demonstrated outside parliament over its decision that a speech by former Communist strongman Todor Zhivkov could not be broadcast live.

Amid turbulent scenes in the Grand National Assembly, General Atanas Semerov accused the opposition of "taking advantage of my tolerance" and submitted his resignation.

"If the guards had given me a pistol, I would have shot myself," he said as he left the hall. (Reuter)

Unilateral truce: Colombia's drug-traffickers said on Friday they were declaring a

unilateral truce in their almost year-long war on the state, which has claimed hundreds of lives in car bomb explosions and street shootings.

"Almost all the Colombian people want peace. We therefore decree a unilateral and indefinite truce and suspend attacks on the police, bombings in all Colombian cities and executions of politicians, journalists, judges, officials," a communiqué from the Extraordinary — drug barons wanted for trial in the United States — said. (Reuter)

Military hunt coup suspects: Nigerian authorities expanded their hunt for suspects in a coup plot on Saturday after military rulers carried out the country's biggest mass execution in recent history.

In a radio and television broadcast on Friday, Chief of General Staff Augustus Aikhomu said 42 people had been shot by firing squad for attempting to overthrow the government of President Ibrahim Babangida on April 22.

He urged citizens to help security forces track down 13 fugitives with a price on their heads. (Reuter)

Earthquake: An earthquake measuring 7.3 on the Richter scale shook Vannuatu's largest island early on Saturday, but officials said damage was minor and there were no reports of

injuries.

The Hong Kong observatory measured Saturday's quake at 7.3 on the Richter scale — the same intensity as the one which last month devastated part of northern Iran — but the epicentre apparently was in the Pacific Ocean off the island's coast. (AP)

Air Inter strike: The French domestic airline Air Inter scrapped 40 per cent of its flights Saturday after negotiations with unions representing ground personnel failed to reach agreement.

The two-day job action, which began Friday, put a crimp into air travel during a weekend when many French families began traditional August vacations.

Unions seeking increased pay and staffing also gave notice for a new work stoppage of at least 24 hours next Thursday or Friday. (UPI)

Confidence vote: Italian Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti on Saturday won a confidence vote approving his rapid replacement of five ministers who resigned in a row over amendments to a new broadcasting law.

The chamber of deputies supported a government resolution approving the prime minister's appointments by 356 votes to 177 in an open roll-call vote. (UPI)

Police clash with CRPF

Differences over Kashmir tactics

Srinagar, India, July 28, (Reuters): A group of local policemen clashed with central paramilitary forces in the Indian state of Jammu and Kashmir today over their handling of a demonstration against Indian rule, witnesses said.

Thousands of paramilitary police have been brought in from outside the mainly Muslim region to deal with the separatist conflict, in which more than 900 people have died this year.

The incident occurred after men of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) used canes and tear gas to break up a pro-independence demonstration.

Senior police officers rushed to the mosque and succeeded in cooling tempers. Police said that more than 30 demonstrators were injured and about half needed hospital treatment.

It was the second time in two days that Kashmiri police had opposed paramilitary security tactics. On Friday, they walked away in protest when the CRPF used canes and tear gas to break up another pro-independence demonstration.

A serious revolt against Indian rule erupted in January in Jammu and Kashmir, the only state in India with a Muslim majority. Several dozen secessionist groups are fighting for a re-united and independent Kashmir, or to join Pakistan.

The US State Department yesterday urged Americans to defer travel to Kashmir, India, because of political unrest and warned especially against flights and to and from the city of Srinagar because of potential terrorism.

In an advisory, the department ruled out travel to the entire state of Kashmir because of continuing political tensions and disturbances.

It cited reports that posters, possibly from militant groups, had appeared in the area warning the public not to fly domestic Indian Airlines to or from the Kashmir city of Srinagar.

"Americans are therefore advised not to take flights destined to or originating in Srinagar because of the possibility of terrorist acts," the department said.

Alkmal Hussain, advisor to Pakistani Premier Benazir Bhutto on economic affairs, today urged India to "resolve the vexed Kashmir issue in deference to the wishes of the people of Jammu and Kashmir."

Such a gesture by India would change the perceptions of smaller neighbours that New Delhi seeks hegemony in the region by establishing a lasting peace," Hussain, leader of the Pakistani delegation said on the second day at international conference on peace and security in South and South-East Asia in New Delhi.

He said the current tension between India and Pakistan has shown that the "major obstacle" to the fulfilment of the collective vision of the peoples of South Asia was the Kashmir dispute.

Bomb rips through Lahore bus: one dies

LAHORE, July 28, (AP): A bomb ripped through a passenger bus in the eastern city of Lahore today, killing a child and injuring nine other people, police said.

Three of the injured were in critical condition, hospital officials said.

The bomb was planted at the rear of the bus, which was parked outside Lahore railway station adjacent to a crowded market, said police officials, speaking on the usual condition they not be identified.

No one has claimed responsibility for the explosion, police said.

Several bombs have exploded in Lahore over the past few months. Police have blamed India, which is struggling to crush a secessionist movement in its troubled state of Jammu and Kashmir.

A spokesman for the opposition All-Jammu and Kashmir Muslim Conference called this a "tall claim to mislead the people."

"We need medication, we need

demonstration by students and schoolchildren chanting, "We want freedom" and "Indians go home."

Some of the fleeing demonstrators sought refuge in a mosque. According to police and witnesses, CRPF men charged in after them without removing their boots.

Infiltrated by what they saw as an act of sacrilege, the Muslim policemen grappled with the mostly Hindu paramilitary men, witnesses said. Some shouted pro-independence slogans and tore off their uniforms.

Opposition likely to boycott Dhaka polls

DHAKA, July 28, (Reuters): Bangladeshi President Hussain Mohammad Ershad said today parliamentary elections would follow the presidential poll he has promised to hold next year.

His declaration made it likely the main opposition parties would again boycott the elections.

"Let there be no mistake that the country is up for a presidential election next year. Parliamentary polls will follow in due course," Ershad told a rising Jatiya Party rally.

"The constitution ordains there must be a fresh election before the current term of the president expires next year so ... [similar] must have parliamentary elections after every five years. We must learn to obey the constitution," he added.

Ershad, an army general who has ruled the poor South Asian nation for more than eight years, previously announced he would stand in presidential polls to be held by October 14 next year. Parliamentary elections are due in 1993.

Opposition parties fear government rigging if the polls are held in that order. Newspapers have reported that the opposition might not boycott elections if a new parliament is chosen before the next president.

Ershad seized power in a coup in 1982 from an elected government. He won a presidential election in 1986 by a landslide and the Jatiya Party won a two-thirds majority in 1988 parliamentary polls.

Independent observers accused the government of rigging the elections and the main opposition parties boycotted both polls.

Malcolm Charles Francis Beloved of MAUD FRANCIS (late), Beverly Lee-Ann and Paula Shani expired on 27-7-1990.

Funeral service at Holy Family Cathedral on 30-7-1990 at 4 pm.

Doctors strike in Bangladesh

Protest at new rules

DHAKA, July 28, (Reuters): Paramedics and nurses staffed hospitals in Bangladesh were paralysed today after doctors began a three-day strike to protest at the government's plan to limit private practice.

Critically ill patients were denied driving rains as they left hospitals in search of alternative treatment, witnesses said.

More than 15,000 doctors, representing two-third of the country's practising physicians, went on strike to force the government to scrap proposed medical rules.

The new rules seek to ban government-employed physicians from engaging in private practice and compel junior doctors to work in the rural villages of Bangladesh, one of the world's poorest countries.

Authorities said they had set up special centres Dhaka's two hospitals with the help of a small group of non-striking doctors to treat patients needing emergency help.

A nurse at the Dhaka Medical College Hospital said many patients who chose to stay on were given medicines prescribed by doctors before the strike.

"The problem is we would have to know if the medicine would have to be changed or stopped," said Shrin Banu.

"We need medication, we need

Officials refund bribes in Azad Kashmir

ISLAMABAD, July 28, (Reuters): Government officials have begun refunding bribes in Pakistani Kashmir in response to a crackdown on corruption, according to state Prime Minister Mianzai Hussain Rathore.

A government statement today quoted Rathore as saying in a speech that the territory, called Azad (Free) Kashmir, "would be made corruption-free ... within three months."

A spokesman for the opposition All-Jammu and Kashmir Muslim Conference called this a "tall claim to mislead the people."

Rathore took power in Azad Kashmir last month as a nominee of Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto at the head of a coalition led by their Pakistan People's Party.

"Measures taken so far to curb bribery and corruption ... have forced corrupt elements to refund more than Rs20 million (\$700,000)," he said. "Recently a party refunded Rs4.5 million (\$200,000) taken by it as bribe in the recent past."

Earlier this month Rathore removed several senior government officials from key positions and set up a commission to investigate corruption.

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People & Places



Madonna performs

Pop star Madonna (centre) performs with group members as she wears a Madrid's soccer club "Atletico Madrid" jersey during her first Spanish concert of her "Blond Ambition" tour in Madrid on Friday. (Reuter wirephoto)

Report in public interest, says CDC

Experts unsure if dentist transmitted Aids

ATLANTA, July 28. (AP): Federal Aids experts said yesterday they likely will never know for sure whether a dentist transmitted Aids to a patient, but were obligated to warn the public about the possibility.

A report Thursday from the US Centres for Disease Control that a young woman apparently was infected by her dentist while having two molars pulled made newspaper headlines and drew criticism from the American Dental Association. Dental association officials said the agency may have jumped to conclusions.

Dr Harold Jaffe, deputy director for science at the CDC's HIV-Aids programme said yesterday there's no way researchers will ever prove the woman infected during the dental

procedure, although all available evidence points to that conclusion.

"We don't really expect we will get more information," Jaffe said.

The CDC's weekly report, which carried details of the case, routinely informs physicians and public health officials about noteworthy developments in infectious disease. It is not unusual for the report to note — as this week's report did — that the sources of a specific illness cannot be proven with 100 per cent certainty.

But Dr Enid Neidele, director of scientific affairs for the Chicago-based Dental Association, said the body did not consider it a conclusive case of transmission.

"We are not happy at any report that could

raise fears on the part of the public that the dental office is a place of danger and infection," Neidele said.

Jaffe said in response, "I don't think we'd be serving the public interest to not publish this case."

The agency said a lengthy investigation of the woman's case found no other risk factors for Aids, such as intravenous drug abuse or numerous sexual encounters. Two men she had dated each tested negative for HIV, the Aids virus, and DNA-virus testing showed a likely match between her strain of HIV and the dentist's.

But researchers are not exactly sure how the woman actually became infected.

ADELAIDE, Australia: In Margaret Thatcher's favour book, the working class rises up to take bloody revenge against the rich.

That's just one of the insights gathered by librarian Margaret Berkman in a survey of the rich and famous reading habits as part of a major project to mark the International Year of Literacy.

More than 50 celebrities have replied to her letters requesting details of their favourite books, and the responses are still flowing in.

Among them are letters from members of the British royal family who because of protocol politely declined to nominate one book.

"Thatcher, in the midst of a record-breaking term as Britain's prime minister, praises 'A Tale of Two Cities' by Charles Dickens."

LONDON: Rod Stewart, lead singer of The Who accepted a \$27,200 settlement Thursday in his lawsuit against a nearby farm that he claims caused the deaths of up to 500,000 fish at his trout farm.

Daltry and his company, Baja Boy Ltd., has sued owners of the home farm where a leak of liquid fertiliser in August 1986 entered a river and caused damage at Daltry's Iwerne Springs Fish Farm in Dorset in southwest England.

Daltry, 45, originally had sought damages of \$905,000. The home farm had admitted liability, but disputed the amount of damages.

EL SEGUNDO, California: Zsa Zsa Gabor, clutching a "good luck" stuffed frog, went to jail Friday to serve a three-day sentence for slapping a Beverly Hills policeman.

Stepping out of a black Mercedes Benz before the cell doors clanged behind her, Gabor said she had bought a designer prison dress — "lots of stripes, darlings" — and had T-shirts showing her looking out through prison bars.

Asked if she was worried about eating jail food, the eight-times married Gabor, who says she is 58 although she was recently shown to be 72, replied: "I'm going to eat

DETROIT: Continental Express Airlines hung out a help wanted sign Friday for comedians to entertain passengers on its 17-minute flights between Cleveland and Detroit.

The routines will provide "relaxation on the way home" for business travellers, who will also be treated to business lectures on morning flights, the airline said.

The comics — who will be auditioned in Detroit on Monday and in Cleveland the following day — will remain on the 33-passenger Embraer 120 Brasilia jet-prop for four trips daily in each direction. (Reuter)



Mistrial declared

A mistrial was declared Friday in the molestation retrial of child care provider Raymond Buckley (shown above) after a jury said it was deadlocked on eight sex counts involving children at the McMartin pre-school.

"We are hopelessly and irreversibly hung on all counts," the jury in the nation's longest, costliest criminal case told Superior Court Judge Stanley Weisberg.

Weisberg declared a mistrial, saying, "It is clear to me that the jury will not reach a verdict in this."

Buckley could be tried again. There was no immediate word from district attorney IRA Reiner's office.

It was the latest unusual twist in the highly publicised case, which lasted seven years, including three years for the first trial, which cost \$13.5 million. (Reuter wirephoto)



Roemer vetoes

Gov Buddy Roemer (shown left addressing) announced Friday that he has vetoed what would have been the nation's toughest state abortion law.

The measure, thrown together in the final days of a tumultuous session of the Louisiana legislature, was designed to challenge the 1973 Supreme Court decision that legalised abortion.

"I vetoed this bill because it does not meet even the minimum standards set forth by me long ago," Roemer said reading from a statement.

Roemer has long insisted that any anti-abortion bill must contain exceptions for rape and incest. The rape exception in the bill he vetoed wasn't strong enough, he said.

(Reuter wirephoto)



Television actress Roseanne Barr (right) and her husband Tom Warner face reporters during Friday's news conference in which she gave her side of the controversy over her singing of the national anthem at a July 25 baseball game in San Diego. Barr, who was "booed" by fans, said she did not intend to offend anyone. (Reuter wirephoto)

Barr rendition of US national anthem slammed

LOS ANGELES: July 28, (Reuter): A tortured rendition of the US national anthem by the country's top television comedian has caused a national furor, with President George Bush joining in the fray yesterday to slam her singing as "disgraceful."

"My reaction is it was disgraceful," Bush told reporters after Roseanne Barr, the outspoken, abrasive star of the popular television series "Roseanne," was booed by fans after singing a shrill out-of-tune version of the anthem before a baseball game on Thursday night.

California radio and television stations were deluged

with protests after the game between the San Diego Padres and the Cincinnati Reds with callers saying her version had been unpatriotic and obscene.

Her screeching rendition was shown repeatedly on US television yesterday and America's newspapers featured front-page photographs of the pudgy actress grabbing her crotch in a rude gesture to a boozing audience after the song.

The gesture is not uncommon on the baseball pitch from dissatisfied players and Barr said yesterday at a news conference that it had been suggested by some of the Padres players.

Moncton, New Brunswick, has been moved to Saturday night, and a Saturday concert at Old Orchard Beach, Maine, has been moved to Sunday.

Fans who can't make the rescheduled concerts will get their money back. (AP)

Three-year-old shot dead

Third child killed in New York in a week

NEW YORK: July 28, (Reuter): In one week, three children and a teenager have been shot dead in New York by stray bullets, setting off a wave of fear that no-one is safe in a city where drug dealers, criminals and thrill-seekers have easy access to guns.

The latest victim was a three-year-old boy killed on Thursday, when gunmen pumped 18 bullets through a steel door intended to protect his family's apartment in the Fort Greene section of Brooklyn.

Mime artist Marceau going deaf

LONDON: July 28, (AP): French mime artist Marcel Marceau, whose silent creations have captivated the world for more than 40 years, yesterday said he is going deaf.

The 67-year-old Marceau, who was in London for a month-long season at Sadler's Wells Theatre, blamed the deafness on excessive air travel during his years of performing

all over the world.

"My ears are blocked. Fortunately I don't have to speak on stage but I do find it embarrassing," Marceau said.

But there was also a benefit to his deafness, he said.

SAN FRANCISCO: July 28, (Reuter): An autopsy performed yesterday failed to disclose the cause of death of Brent Mydland, keyboard player for the Grateful Dead rock band, a coroner's spokesman said.

Mydland, 38, was found dead on Thursday in his suburban San Francisco home by friends who became alarmed when they could not reach him by telephone, said Sergeant Richard Terry, spokesman for the Contra Costa County coroner.

He said there was no evidence of foul play and results of toxicology tests would not be known for at least two weeks.

The other five members of one of America's oldest rock groups issued a statement saying, "We have lost a brother in our band and we grieve for him and his family."

The group had just returned after a three-week tour that ended on Monday in Chicago. It was scheduled for a tour of Europe in October and the plans for the tour were not immediately announced.

And also killed during the week by a sniper's bullet was 18-year-old Hassoun Tatum.

Police said the Fruto killings appeared to be deliberate. Her father, Edward, 26, had a criminal record and recently testified for the prosecution in a murder trial.

On Tuesday, Yaritimi Fruto, age one, was killed as she drove in her father's car. A man stepped from behind a truck and fired at her father, killing him. One bullet passed through his body into his daughter's body.

Police said the Fruto killings appeared to be deliberate. Her father, Edward, 26, had a criminal record and recently testified for the prosecution in a murder trial.

And also killed during the week by a sniper's bullet was 18-year-old Hassoun Tatum.

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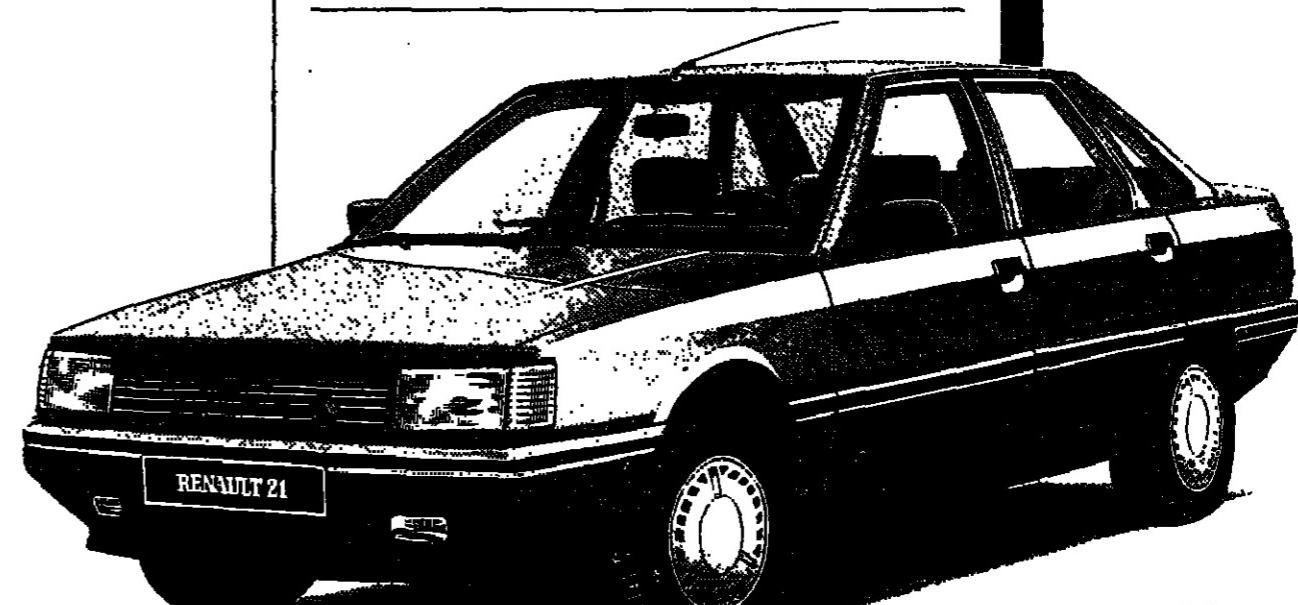
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Hasenfus recounts downing of plane

MIAMI, July 28. (AP): The survivor of the 1980 plane wreck in Nicaragua that helped unravel the Iran-Contra affair tearfully recounted the crash as he testified in his damage suit against a retired general and a CIA-linked airline.

Eugene Hasenfus, who was a cargo handler aboard planes carrying aid to the Contras, filed a federal lawsuit along with the family of co-pilot Wallace Sawyer Jr., who was among three killed when a Sandinista rocket downed their plane.

Hasenfus, his voice cracking and tears in his eyes, said he stood in the open cargo door as C-123 flew into southern Nicaragua on Oct. 5, 1980, with a load of supplies for a Contra force pinned down by Sandinistas.

"There was a loud explosion from the right. I was astounded. The whole plane was on fire," Hasenfus said.

"Sawyer yelled 'What happened?' It was the last thing he ever said."

Wearing a skydiving parachute supplied by his brother in Wisconsin, Hasenfus tried to jump, but initially became entangled in a machine-gun aimed out the door. Finally, he freed himself and pulled his ripcord.

"I was in a state of shock," he said. "I could see the aircraft in a spin there was nothing but black smoke and flames."

Hasenfus and Sawyer's family are suing retired air force Major-General Richard Secord and Miami-based Southern Air Transport, alleging they misled the crew and negligently used aircraft without adequate safety equipment.

Following the crash, president Ronald Reagan denied there was any US government connection to the flight. But Hasenfus, and documents in the wreckage of the plane, told another story, linking the crew to US officials.

And after the disclosure the following month that proceeds from the Reagan administration's secret arms sales to Iran had been diverted to the Contras, congressional investigations showed that the plane was part of White House aide Oliver North's secret Contra resupply network. The Contras were seeking to overthrow Nicaragua's leftist Sandinista government.

Hasenfus said he evaded the Sandinistas overnight in the rain soaked jungle, but was captured the next day. They brought him to the crash site, where he said the soldiers showed him a bag containing the remains of Sawyer, pilot William Cooper, and the mission's Contra radio man.

"They laughed. They thought it was funny," Hasenfus said. The Sandinistas eventually convicted Hasenfus of terrorism and sentenced him to 10 years in prison, but released him after three months.

Before recounting the crash, Hasenfus, 49, now a construction worker in Marinette, Wisconsin, said he worked for CIA-owned Air America during the Vietnam war.

When Central American hostilities heated up in July 1980, he was contacted by Cooper and brought to the Southern Air headquarters at Miami International Airport. He signed a contract with Corporate Air Services but said he understood it was a front for Southern Air, which was paying his expenses.

He said the crews complained that there was no safety equipment such as parachutes or survival gear and that the navigation radios did not work properly. But he said he accepted the defects, thinking it was a patriotic, shoestring effort to fight communists in Central America.

Coup bid in Trinidad

Premier besieged; troops surround parliament



A. N. R. Robinson, the ousted prime minister of Trinidad and Tobago shown in a file photo. (Reuter wirephoto)

Economic crisis

Trinidad struggles

POR-T-OF-SPAIN, July 28. (Reuter): Trinidad and Tobago, an oil-rich member of Commonwealth, has struggled to diversify its economy since slumping oil prices plunged the Caribbean country into a severe economic crisis.

The dual-island nation, located just seven miles off the Venezuelan coast, was discovered by Christopher Columbus on his third voyage to the region in 1498.

The country of 1.3 million has one of the world's most multi-racial populations with the descendants of immigrants from India, China, Africa, Europe and the Middle East who moved to the then colony after the abolition of slavery in 1834 to meet labour shortages. Most inhabitants live on the larger island of Trinidad.

After being ruled by the Spanish and British, the country became a republic within the Commonwealth in 1976. Prime Minister A. N. R. Robinson and his National Alliance for Reconstruction party won election in 1980, breaking a 30-year hold on power by the People's National Movement.

In recent months, the government has been plagued by strikes by hospital nurses demanding higher wages. Since 1987, some 1,200 of the country's 3,000 registered nurses have left work either through early retirement or to migrate to another country.

Trinidad and Tobago receives most of its foreign export income from sales of crude oil and refined petroleum products. Last year, oil accounted for 25 per cent of the nation's gross domestic product (GDP).

The country, which has proved oil reserves of some 600 million barrels, operates two oil refineries at Point-a-Pierre and Point Fortin.

Slumping oil prices since 1982, however, have boosted unemployment and the government's budget deficit. Per capita income plunged from \$6,800 to \$3,000 during the past decade and unemployment soared from about nine per cent to 22 per cent.

Robinson had attempted to diversify the economy and restore economic growth by devaluing the currency and cutting salaries of civil servants by 10 per cent.

In 1989, the country exported \$1.57 billion worth of products, including oil, sugar, cocoa, coffee, methanol, iron and steel.

The country's central bank earlier this month released a report indicating that Trinidad and Tobago's seven-year economic decline might be nearing an end. The report said that GDP contracted by 1.2 per cent in 1989, compared with five per cent and 3.7 per cent in the previous two years.

Here are some facts and figures on Trinidad and Tobago:

The land

The island of Trinidad is in the Caribbean Sea about 12.8 kilometres (eight miles) north of northeast Venezuela. The smaller island of Tobago lies about 32 kilometres (20 miles) farther northeast. Together, they encompass 5,123 square kilometres (1,987 square miles) of land. The capital is Port-of-Spain. The terrain consists of plains and low mountains. The climate is tropical.

The people

The nation has a cosmopolitan population of about 1.3 million, with all but the 45,000 on Tobago residing on Trinidad. Most of the people are of African or East Indian origin. Trinidadians of mixed race make up slightly more than 16 per cent. Whites comprise 1.7 per cent.

POR-T-OF-SPAIN, July 28. (Agencies): Troops today surrounded the parliament building where a black Muslim group is barricaded holding Prime Minister A. N. R. Robinson, the cabinet and other officials seized in a coup attempt.

At least three people were reported killed when the group, Jamaat Al Muslimeen, stormed the parliament building while lawmakers were in session on Friday night. No government officials are known to have been hurt.

Premier Robinson ousted from rule

POR-T-OF-SPAIN, July 28. (Reuter): Trinidad and Tobago's Prime Minister A. N. R. Robinson, said to have been ousted yesterday by a black Muslim group, ended 30 years of rule by the People's National Movement (PNM) in 1986 elections promising to bring political and economic change to the Caribbean islands.

Arthur Napoleon Raymond Robinson, 63, came to power in a landslide victory in this multi-racial Caribbean island of 1.3 million people on Dec. 16, 1986. The next elections were due by the end of 1991.

Robinson, who is of African descent and studied philosophy, politics and economics at Oxford University, broke with the country's tradition of voting along racial lines in 1986 by running as candidate of an opposition coalition that embraced both Indian and African parties.

But he came under criticism from citizens of Indian descent, who account for 40.7 per cent of the population, when two years after his election he fired four Indian cabinet ministers who had criticised him for autocratic leadership.

His National Alliance for Reconstruction collapsed and, according to a recent opinion poll, the newly-formed breakaway United National Congress was poised to hold the balance of power in national polls due in December 1991.

Robinson had pledged that the major priorities of his first five-year term would be to restore growth to the economy, badly hit by falling oil prices, and end racial divisions.

An experienced politician ready to encourage business interests, Robinson attempted to diversify an economy whose dependence on oil led to a steep decline in living standards after the collapse of oil prices in the early 1980s.

Robinson, a British-trained lawyer, began his political career with the PNM and rose through party ranks to become number two to PNM founder Eric Williams. He was finance minister from 1961 to 1966 and foreign minister from 1966 to 1970.

At one stage he was seen as a possible successor to Williams but by 1970 he was out of the party.

His relations with the PNM soured over the government's apparent inability to act on a number of problems, including the handling of the "black power" race riots that year over unemployment and other economic ills, its failure to clamp down on corruption and what Williams saw as anxiety to succeed him.

The riots led to a state of emergency being imposed on April 21, 1970, and to a mutiny by the Trinidad regiment, 33 members of which were charged with treason.

Robinson, who was the PNM's deputy political leader and foreign minister at the time, said the government should have resigned.

His rift with the PNM may have been deepened because Williams' tight hold on power gave little leeway to such rising political stars as Robinson, former attorney-general Karl Hudson-Phillips and others.

The acting president of Trinidad, Emanuel Carter, declared that the government was in control.

"The legally constituted Trinidad and Tobago government is still very much in charge of the situation in the country," said Carter, who was filling in while President Noor Hassan Ali was on vacation in Britain.

The group, which also seized the state-run television station, released eight of the 20 captives after mediation by an Anglican priest. Those freed included two government ministers. The group threatened to harm the captives if the government moved against the TV station.

Deputy Prime Minister Winston Dookeran said the government was in control of the situation, which he described as "a mass kidnapping."

"We are victims at this time of extremists, particularly backed by Libya and other international hoodlums," Dookeran said during a television interview in which he appealed for all international help for the southern Caribbean nation.

Rebel leader Yasin Abu Bakr said in a morning television broadcast, however, that he had overthrown Robinson's government and charges were to be brought against him and members of his cabinet.

Police headquarters were set on fire early in the coup attempt. At dawn, several fires were visible for miles under towering plumes of black smoke.

Gumfire sounded sporadically in the streets of Port-of-Spain, a town of 60,000. The international airport has been closed since shortly after the coup attempt began.

Mark Allen, a government spokesman, told the Cable News Network there had been looting during the night.

"Things are very dangerous in downtown Port-of-Spain. There is sporadic shooting. And there are lots and lots of fires," he said.

The Muslim group, which is believed to have a membership of between 200 and 500, apparently contacted police and the army and arranged for a ceasefire to release their captives, the Caribbean News Agency (Cana) reported.

The group of eight captives was released from the parliament building at 6.10 am EDT (1010 GMT), Cana said.

Hospitals of Port-of-Spain reported more than a dozen fatalities from overnight violence but an accurate count could not be immediately determined, Cana said.

Local radio reported that army troops were taking up positions at strategic points in the city, including the central bank, post office and state radio, and had surrounded the parliament building, known as the Red House.

Troops also blocked off some streets in the central area with barricades.

State-run radio said Anglican priest Canon Knolly Clarke, who had been mediating the standoff between the armed rebels and the government, left parliament with Dookeran for talks with Abu Bakr at an undisclosed location.

Trinidad and Tobago, a twin-island oil-producing Commonwealth republic of Venezuela, has been hit hard by a fall in the price of oil and unemployment has hit 20 per cent. Robinson has imposed unpopular austerity measures to halt economic decline in the nation of 1.3 million people.

The acting president of Trinidad, Emanuel Carter, declared that the government was in control.

"The legally constituted Trinidad and Tobago government is still very much in charge of the situation in the country," said Carter, who was filling in while President Noor Hassan Ali was on vacation in Britain.

But Robinson has insisted that only a small but vocal minority of Peruvians are anti-Japanese, citing his overwhelming victory over Vargas Llosa as proof.

"The Peruvian people were presented with this anti-Asian feeling during the campaign, and



'Prisoner of war'

Members of Alpha 66, the anti-Castro Cuban guerrillas, take a 'prisoner of war' during training exercises in their camp in the Florida Everglades on June 3. The 'prisoner', 35-year-old Roberto de la Torre, spent three years in the Cuban army and came to the US during the 1980 Mariel boatlift. (Reuter wirephoto)

Fujimori marks double festivities

Inauguration, birthday

LIMA, July 28. (Reuter): During World War Two, young Alberto Fujimori looked on as Peruvian nationalists, his father was the victim of persecution by Peruvians who feared they were spies sent by Tokyo to set up a beachhead in Latin America.

Nearly 50 years later, Peru's small but prosperous Japanese community can claim a triumph in Fujimori's extraordinary rise from political obscurity to his inauguration as president today — his 52nd birthday.

"If my father were alive today, I'm sure he would say to me, 'That was so long ago, it has no importance now,'" Fujimori said, in the conciliatory tone he uses when speaking of the class and racial divisions that still rend Peruvian society.

Members of the 70,000-strong community, the largest in Latin America after Brazil, said they were proud of Fujimori but worried about the possible pitfalls of his presidency.

"If he fails, will people take their anger out on the Japanese?" said Amelia Morimoto, an anthropologist. "Anything can happen in Peru, but naturally people are proud."

Japans began emigrating to Peru in the 1930s, seeking a new life at a time when times were hard in Japan.

Fujimori's campaign for the presidency sparked outbursts of anti-Asian racism from some supporters of his main opponent, Mario Vargas Llosa.

Despite protests by Vargas Llosa, some of his followers responded to Fujimori's June election victory by gathering outside the novelist's home to chant: "Out with the filthy oriental" and "Mario is Peruvian, the oriental is a Martian."

Fujimori has said some top military officers dislike him because of his Japanese ancestry, but he added that he feared no disloyalty in the armed forces because of his race.

"Fujimori is a foreigner of first-generation Japanese origin ... who doesn't have any dead relatives buried here," military leader Francisco Morales Bermudez said before the vote, summing up nationalistic sentiments among some officers.

But Fujimori has insisted that only a small but vocal minority of Peruvians are anti-Japanese, citing his overwhelming victory over Vargas Llosa as proof.

"The Peruvian people were presented with this anti-Asian feeling during the campaign, and



Alberto Fujimori assumed the Peruvian presidency yesterday. (Reuter wirephoto)

they elected me," he said recently.

Apart from transcending the race issue, Fujimori must grapple with enormous responsibilities that he has at this very important moment for his country led to the decision to send a representative delegation, Prensa Latina quoted Escalon as saying.

The head of the Cuban delegation, President of the National Assembly Juan Escalon, said Castro was very sorry that he could not attend the inauguration, the Cuban news agency Prensa Latina reported.

Other Latin American leaders streamed into Lima to attend the inauguration today under tight security, with thousands of police and army soldiers patrolling the capital on the eve of the swearing-in.

The head of the Cuban delegation, President of the National Assembly Juan Escalon, said Castro was very sorry that he could not attend the inauguration, the Cuban news agency Prensa Latina reported.

Castro's government has been embroiled in a dispute with Spain over asylum-seekers in the Spanish Embassy in Havana.

The Cuban delegation to Peru included Manuel Pineiro, head of the Americas Department of the Cuban Communist Party Central Committee, and Lazar Mora, head of the Latin American Department of the Foreign Ministry.

Both the Cuban Embassy and Peru's Prime Minister Guillermo Larco Cox had said this week that Castro would attend.

His cancellation looked likely to disappoint local leftists who had planned street marches and ceremonies to greet him. Lima's San Marcos University had planned to grant him an honorary doctorate.

Spanish Foreign Minister Francisco Fernandez Ordóñez, whom a Cuban statement last week called ignorant, arrived to lead Spain's delegation to the ceremony.

Outgoing President Alan Garcia, on the last full day of his crisis-ridden government, met the presidents of Venezuela, Argentina, Chile and Bolivia at Lima's Jorge Chavez airport.

Argentine President Carlos Menem parried questions on whether he would be willing to mediate between Cuba and Spain, as the Buenos Aires press has reported.

"We'll talk about that later," Menem told reporters on his arrival.

Colombian President Virgilio Barco was due to arrive today.

In Washington the United States, worried about a possible wave of Cuban refugees, wasted no time yesterday in sharply rejecting Castro's call for US ships to come and pick up Cubans unhappy with his rule.

The State Department also said it had launched an official protest with Cuba for

INTERNATIONAL

Summer drought killed dozens of people

Mediterranean nations broil

PARIS, July 28, (AP): Across the Mediterranean basin, a blistering summer drought has killed dozens of people, destroyed crops, dried up rivers, sparked water wars and forced tight rationing.

French farmers are sabotaging water pumps that supply city dwellers. A two-month heat wave left 38 people dead in Algeria. Half of Italy's olive crop has been destroyed. Residents of Istanbul, Turkey, are limited to four hours of water a day.

In Greece, the drought is the worst in 100 years, forcing the government to raise water prices 300 percent to bring a 15 percent drop in consumption from a parched populace.

Supertankers are shipping water to hard-hit Greek coastal areas and geologists drilling for fresh supplies. Agricultural cooperatives say farmers have sus-

tained losses of 300 billion drachmas (\$2 billion).

The Greek government plans to divert the Central Evino River to replenish reservoirs around Athens, where the current supply would last only 98 days.

French farmers are sabotaging water pumps that supply city dwellers. A two-month heat wave last weekend claimed five lives, including a farmer who dropped dead while installing irrigation equipment.

A persistent Atlantic high-pressure system has held rainfall in Normandy and the entire southern third of the country to 50 percent below average.

Dozens of towns have banned lawn watering and car washing.

"In the regions of France where it's dry, it's the driest for 10 years," meteorologist Guy La Riviere of the National Weather

Service said yesterday.

Officials in the southwestern Andes region, where rationing has been in effect since 1989, report anxious farmers illegally diverting water to save corn and sunflower crops.

Farmers occasionally sabotage public water pumps that they believe steal water from their sun-baked fields, officials said.

"The acts become more dramatic as the situation gets more urgent," said Jean-Pierre Monod, president of a farming co-operative.

Lack of rain has dried major rivers like the Loire, Rhone and Garonne to up to half their normal levels. When temperatures in the Garonne climbed to 28 degrees (82 Fahrenheit) Monday, the Gofflech nuclear power plant shut down as managers

Droughts leave Peruvians thirsty, dirty and sick

CRUZ DE MOTUPE, Peru, July 28, (AP): Every morning, Natividad Hancock walks an hour across brown sand to fill two buckets with dirty water.

Mrs Hancock steps carefully as she returns to her thatch house on a barren hill. The daily ration of two buckets is all the water she and her two small children have for drinking, cooking and bathing.

"These people don't even have enough fuel to boil the water, and the water is filthy," Medina said.

Intestinal disease has risen 52 percent this year in Cruz De Motupe, and similar increases had been reported in Lima's many other shantytowns, according to Camelia Pissicker, a Health Ministry official.

Peru already has one of the world's worst rates of infant mortality — 81 per 1,000 — mostly due to intestinal disease.

Thousands of poor people recently marched through downtown Lima to demand water.

"Water is a right and not a privilege," many of their banners said.

The poor suffer most.

"People are dying out here," said Dr Rafael

ruled the water was too hot to

boil the reactor.

Across the Mediterranean in

Algeria, a two-month heat wave

has been blamed for 38 deaths in

the southern city of Ain Salal.

Temperature consistently hung

at 40 degrees (104 Fahrenheit).

Medina, one of three doctors who care for the 22,000 people living in or near Cruz De Motupe.

Like the rest of the shantytown's dusty buildings, Medina's clinic has no electricity or telephone. Slogans scrawled in red paint by members of the Maoist guerrilla group Shining Path cover its cinder block walls.

"We live worse than animals," she said, holding her son's scar-covered hand. "Sometimes I cry all day from anger."

Until early this year, trucks brought water to Mrs Hancock's house in a shantytown outside Lima.

Now, with Peru suffering its worst drought of the century, the trucks are delivering water to richer neighbourhoods that have gone dry.

More of Lima's 7 million people are affected. Even upper-class neighbourhoods go entire days without water.

Clothing, dishes and food cannot be washed. Toilets are not flushed. Bathtubs are covered in dust.

The poor suffer most.

"People are dying out here," said Dr Rafael

In Algiers, residents stock-

piled jerrycans of water and

braced for a government-ordered suspension of supplies

River, which is fed by mountain streams, and a drought in the southern Andes has left the streams nearly dry.

According to the meteorological service, the drought is caused by a change in the winds that usually bring moist sea air to the mountains.

Decades of neglect of Peru's infrastructure make the situation worse. Not only has the water supply been cut in half, the city water company said, but 48 percent of that seeps into the ground or spills into the ocean through broken pipes.

Three reservoir projects first proposed in the late 1960s have been abandoned.

Other basic services also have collapsed because of the drought.

Lima's power comes from five hydroelectric plants. It is being rationed, and the daily outages in turn affect the water company's ability to move water and operate wells.

Reservoirs built to run the hydroelectric plants during the dry season now supply much of the capital's water.

An emergency well-digging programme has helped, but ground water levels are dropping rapidly.

Sunday and Monday, Water reserves have dropped by two-thirds in the capital over the past two years.

Kodak offered to check mirrors

WASHINGTON, July 28, (AP):

An unsuccessful Eastman Kodak bid to make the Hubble space telescope mirrors called for a second company to double-check the grinding and polishing, a provision not offered by low bidder Perkin-Elmer, the firm that produced the flawed Hubble mirror.

The Kodak bid submitted to the US space agency for manufacture of the Hubble mirrors called for Kodak to make one primary mirror within its plant and for Itek Optical Systems to make an identical primary mirror at another plant.

In its proposal, Kodak said the two mirrors and the different testing systems of the two companies could be used to verify the prescription. One of the two primary mirrors would then be used in the Hubble space telescope.

National Aeronautics and Space Administration officials, however, awarded the contract to Perkin-Elmer. The Danbury, Connecticut, firm, now known as Hughes Danbury Optical Systems, did its own mirror grinding and polishing and used its own personnel and equipment to check the prescriptions.

Perkin-Elmer's winning bid was \$64.28 million. Kodak's proposal was for \$59.79 million. Through overruns, the Perkin-Elmer contract climbed to an eventual total of \$451 million.

Augustine to head US space panel

WASHINGTON, July 28, (AP): The administration of President George Bush named a veteran Aerospace executive Wednesday to head an independent committee that will review NASA's plans for the future of the US space programme.

The committee, under chairman Norman R. Augustine, will report its findings in four months. Its mandate is to look into all phases of the space programme and make recommendations for alternate approaches when appropriate.

Augustine has been chairman and chief executive officer of the Martin Marietta Corporation, which builds the Titan series of rockets among its many space-related activities.

Augustine was the only appointee named in an announcement by Vice-President Dan Quayle, who is head of the National Space Council.

Call on world to save the children

PRINCETON, New Jersey, July 28, (UPI): More than 150 religious leaders, including Muslims and Jews, Christians and Buddhists, Hindus and Sikhs, called on the world's governments yesterday to save children from economic exploitation and needless death.

The World's Religious for the World's Children conference attracted religious leaders from 28 countries who met at Princeton theological seminary as a prelude to the United Nations World Summit for Children set for September 29-30.

The assembled leaders heard grim testimony on the plight of children in under-developed countries and in the ghettos of the world's cities.

Unicef secretary James Grant, who chaired the conference, said more than 40,000 children died each day for want of simple vaccines, sanitation, or food.

Religious representatives from 25 countries set aside their differences to study the problems facing the world's youngsters.

The final day of the conference ended with the group issuing a declaration and action plan which they plan to present to the UN in September.

The document calls on governments to:

■ Divert at least 10-15 percent of military spending to helping children.

■ Sign, ratify, and monitor compliance with the convention on the rights of the child, an international agreement protecting children.

■ Provide basic health care and education to all children.

■ Take action to stop economic exploitation of children and child abuse.

■ Undertake actions to promote the well-being, education, and leadership roles of female children and their right to equal treatment with male children.

■ Re-order community resources in accord with the principle of the right of children to a first call on resources.

The clerics also called on religious bodies to focus more attention on the role of organised religion in helping children.

"Our common voice resounds despite differences in our traditions, our practices, our beliefs, and despite our inadequacies. Our religious traditions summon us to regard the child as more than a legal entity, but as a transformer of society," a statement released by the religious leaders said.

The delegates also called for a time of world-wide prayer and fasting combined with individual donations towards ending the poverty of children throughout the world on the weekend of September 21-23.

Safe way to tell baby's sex

LONDON, July 28, (Reuters): Australian doctors say they have found a safer way to determine the sex of unborn babies and possibly diagnose inherited disorders.

In the new technique, reported in the British medical magazine *The Lancet* yesterday, doctors plucked foetal cells from the mother's blood instead of plunging needles into the placenta to extract them.

By amplifying genetic material, or DNA, from the cells, the researchers from Flinders University in South Australia said they were able to determine the baby's sex in 12 of 13 cases.

"Isolation of these foetal cells could allow non-invasive diagnosis of a wide range of inherited disorders," the article added.

Bentley deemed authentic: A British judge ruled Friday that the "Old Number One" Bentley is authentic despite numerous alterations during its favoured history as a racer, and ordered a car company to pay £10 million (\$18.3 million) for the vehicle.

The former highest price ever paid for a used car was \$8.1 million, and the decision will have implications for the values of other classic vehicles because the judge ruled at the end of a 13-day hearing that a car's history is an innate part of its worth.

Edward Hubbard, 59, the owner of the bright red car that entered racing in 1929, used the vehicle in a deal to purchase Middlebridge Scimitar, a car company he wished to buy to realise his plans to manufacture an amphibious vehicle.

Middlebridge Scimitar agreed to take possession of the grand Bentley in exchange for being taken over by Hubbard for an estimated worth of £3.2 million (\$5.85 million), and to pay the car collector £6.8 million (\$12.4 million). (UPI)

Fergie to visit stepfather: The Duchess of York plans to fly to Argentina Saturday evening with her two daughters to visit her gravely ill stepfather, Hector Barrantes, Buckingham Palace said Friday.

The duchess, the former Sarah Ferguson, is making the trip on the advice of his doctors, the palace said.

Barrantes, 51, was diagnosed as having lymphatic cancer in February.

After undergoing chemotherapy in New York, Barrantes returned to his 1,000-acre (400-hectare) ranch, located 250 miles (400 miles) from Buenos Aires, where he breeds polo ponies.

The duchess' wife, Queen Elizabeth's second son Prince Andrew, will travel on a scheduled British Airways flight from Heathrow with Princess Beatrice, who will be 2 next month, 4-month-old Princess Eugenie, the children's nanny Alison Wardley and a personal detective. (UPI)

Judy Garcia holds an AR 15 semi-automatic rifle as she listens to instructors at an Alpha 66 training session at the anti-Castro Cuban guerrillas' camp in the Florida Everglades June 3.

(UPI/Tony Mirephoto)

Record compensation: An airline pilot who was paralyzed in a fall from his motorcycle accident was awarded record damages of £1.6 million (\$2.9 million) by a British court on Friday.

Dorset County Council in southwest England was ordered to pay the personal injury damages to John Lambert, 42, after the High Court ruled that it had failed to maintain the road where the accident occurred nine years ago.

Lambert's motorcycle failed to negotiate a sharp bend and plunged down a steep incline. The accident ended his career as a pilot for Royal Air Maroc. (Reuters)

Florida killer executed: A killer who stabbed, raped and robbed a woman was executed Friday evening after the US Supreme Court rejected claims that Florida's electric chair wasn't working properly.

The execution of Anthony Bertolotti, 38, was carried out without any sign of problems, the governor's office said.

The Supreme Court, agreeing with lower courts that the chair was working properly, rejected Bertolotti's last appeal about 30 minutes before he died at 7:07 pm.

A dozen death-penalty supporters staged a demonstration in a pasture across from the Florida state prison near Starke while a man and woman apparently opposed to capital punishment stood in an adjacent field as the sentence was carried out. (AP)

New recruits

Judy Garcia holds an AR 15 semi-automatic rifle as she listens to instructors at an Alpha 66 training session at the anti-Castro Cuban guerrillas' camp in the Florida Everglades June 3.

(UPI/Tony Mirephoto)

Proposals being studied.

Ciacia urged Mohawks to follow Indian tradition and place their weapons in a "safe enclosure" under the supervision of a joint commission that could include Indians.

In return, the Mohawks must take down the barricades and give up their arsenal of weapons that include fully automatic rifles, Ciacia said.

Spokesmen for Mohawk leaders at the Kanata Reserve near Oka said Ciacia's

proposal is being studied.

Ciacia urged Mohawks to follow Indian tradition and place their weapons in a "safe enclosure" under the supervision of a joint commission that could include Indians.

Ciacia said that under Kanata Mohawks, the great law of peace, the confederacy was buried under the great tree of peace.

"Mohawks are extending their hand peacefully to

the Mohawk nation," Ciacia said.

Ciacia has respected Indian tradition since the standoff began, for example, stopping negotiations at nightfall to follow Indian custom.

Ciacia also repeated earlier comments that the federal government must become involved in resolving longstanding social and economic problems in the area.

Mohawks consider new proposals by Canadian, Quebec governments

MONTREAL, July 28, (UPI): Mohawk leaders were sceptical last night as they considered Canadian and Quebec government proposals aimed at settling two lengthy armed standoffs over Indian land claims.

Meanwhile, a Quebec government spokesman said ballistic tests showed a policeman killed July 11 in an abortive swat raid on one of the barricades was not killed by a police bullet.

Quebec Indian Affairs Minister John Caciola offered yesterday afternoon to withdraw police who are surrounding the Kanata and Kahnawake Indian reserves and invited Mohawks to participate in a coroner's inquest into the death of Quebec police Cpl. Marcel Lemay.

In return, the Mohawks must take down the barricades and give up their arsenal of weapons that include fully automatic rifles, Ciacia said.

Spokesmen for

Aquino has gained respite from political problems, insurgency

Philippine govt faces major challenge in quake recovery

MANILA, July 28, (AP): The July 16 earthquake has silenced President Corazon Aquino's opponents temporarily, but sets the stage for deeper crises if her government is not effective in handling the recovery.

The quake, which killed more than 1,600 people, also may affect the outcome of talks on the future of the six US military bases in the Philippines. The government relied heavily on US resources in the first critical hours.

"Some governments have turned disasters like this to their advantage," a Western diplomat said, on condition of anonymity.

"This could be an opportunity for them to show they're a functioning government, but it easily could turn into a real mess," he added.

Because of the earthquake, Aquino appears to have gained a respite from political problems in Congress and challenges both

from Marxist insurgents and military disidents responsible for six coup attempts.

Before the tremor, the executive and legislative branches were heading for a collision over her establishment of a new political movement, Kasbisig, aimed at bypassing political parties.

Congress set aside those differences and quickly approved administration requests for 10 billion pesos (\$440,000) in emergency funds. In turn, the Aquino administration accepted congressional demands that debt relief be sought from foreign creditors.

Temporary unilateral truces were announced by the Communist New People's Army and the dissident reform the Armed Forces Movement.

Relief operations appear to have improved, but serious problems persist two weeks after

the quake.

Many foreign relief shipments were tied up in customs awaiting clearance and payment of duty. Reporters who visited affected areas said local officials delayed deliveries by repacking relief supplies in order to take credit for them.

Under the best of conditions, the Philippines faces a massive recovery that, by some estimates, could take more than a decade.

Bridges on major transport arteries collapsed. More than 80,000 buildings were damaged or destroyed. More than 110,000 people were left homeless.

Officials of the Public Works Department say the commercial district of Dagupan, a city of more than 100,000 residents, needs to be relocated because it sank by about nine feet (three metres).

The emergency dramatised all the administrative weaknesses for which Aquino has been criticised since taking office in the 1986 "people power revolution" that ousted the late president Ferdinand Marcos.

Rufina and foreign analysts question the government's ability to manage recovery and curb public discontent if the deficiencies are not corrected.

With power centralised in Manila, local officials lacked the resources and authority to run effective rescue operations.

Because the quake occurred at 4:30 pm, many government employees simply went home, making it difficult for local officials to contact Manila for help. The central government did not know the extent of the damage for hours because the neglected communications system functions poorly.

Government rescuers did not reach some devastated areas of Nueva Vizcaya province until four days after the quake. Local officials found themselves trying to cope with a major disaster without cranes, medicine, transport or trained medics.

It was the private sector, nor the government, that responded best. Commercial radio stations alerted rescuers to areas of greatest need.

Cadets of the Philippine Military Academy carried out the first rescue operations in Dagupan, where nearly 400 people were killed. The cadets were helped by gold miners who heard radio reports of the devastation and walked miles over steep mountains to volunteer.

Some critics fear that, despite a reservoir of public goodwill, Aquino lacks the flair and

sense of drama needed to rally the country.

She had an opportunity to display decisive leadership in her state of the nation address to Congress, delivered one week after the quake.

Many hoped for a rousing call to arms, but it was a plodding, desultory speech, uninterrupted by applause.

Diplomatic sources said the government was slow in requesting foreign help. A US rescue team was in the air from Andrews Air Force Base before a formal request for assistance was received.

Richard Gordon, mayor of Olongapo and a Red Cross official, approached the US Navy at Subic Bay for help. Gordon used a commercial radio station to co-ordinate aid with the mayor of Cabanatuan, where a school collapsed, killing more than 130 people.



Communist Party Chief G. Orchibat (centre) talks to supporters during an election rally July 27 in Ulan Bator. (Reuter wirephoto)



Mongolian soldiers drill at an army base outside Ulan Bator July 28. (Reuter wirephoto)

Campaigning ends in Mongolia

Communists expected to gain comfortable victory in first free polls

ULAN BATOR, July 28, (Reuter): With rock bands and banners of Genghis Khan, Mongolia's fledgling opposition parties ended their campaign against the ruling communists for tomorrow's final round of the nation's first free elections.

The communists, unchallenged in power for 69 years, are expected to gain a comfortable victory in the upper house of parliament, the Great People's Hural. But an opinion poll suggested that a coalition of the three main opposition parties could win a majority in the yet-to-be-formed but important lower house, the Small Hural.

Opposition party organisers spent today printing posters on equipment brought in by two members of the Police Solidarity movement. One poster showed US Secretary of State James Baker, due in Mongolia next week, saying that truth was good.

Rival party newspapers besieged the widely-scattered voters in a land the size of Western Europe with stirring rhetoric.

UK bid for HK passports rejected

BEIJING, July 28, (Reuter): China said today Britain's plan to give full passports to up to 225,000 people in Hong Kong was unacceptable and warned off possible retaliation.

It also accused the British parliament, which earlier this week completed work on the law, of violating the spirit of the Sino-British accord on the colony's return to China in 1997.

"This move of the British side contravenes the spirit and essence of the Sino-British joint declaration and impairs China's sovereignty," the Foreign Ministry said in a statement.

"It is something unacceptable to the Chinese government."

It said the law created confusion in Hong Kong and was detrimental to stability and a smooth transfer of power. It said China would not recognise the new passports.

"The Chinese government reserves the right to take further measures at an appropriate time in response to the erroneous action of the British side," it said in the statement issued by the official New China News Agency and broadcast prominently on the main evening television news.

Beijing has in the past attacked the plan, part of British government efforts to shore up sagging confidence in Hong Kong's future under Chinese rule.

But the latest outburst followed by only one day a British ministerial visit aimed at repairing strained ties with China.

In London, a Foreign Office spokesman dismissed China's attack as a "well-known position which they've stated before."

Britain plans to give full British nationality to 50,000 key Hong Kong people and their families, a total of up to 225,000 people.

In 1984, China and Britain signed an accord handing Hong Kong back to Chinese rule but guaranteeing a high degree of autonomy to the colony after the transfer of power.

Hong Kong is to become a "Special Administrative Region" of China that will retain its capitalist system for 50 years after the British flag is lowered for the last time on June 30, 1997.



Two Japanese girls smile as a tropical fish swims in a large aquarium exhibited on a Tokyo street corner July 28. (Reuter wirephoto)

Kaiju stresses need for normalising ties

Soviet Union, North Korea

KARIKAWA, Japan, July 28, (Reuter): Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaiju said today that Tokyo should normalise ties with North Korea and the Soviet Union.

"We are ready to help the Soviet Union build a market economy," he told 300 participants at a seminar of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party in this mountain resort north of Tokyo. "And the Soviet Union recognises us as a major trading partner."

Kaiju warned delegates they should not be swayed by a series of conflicting statements from Kremlin leaders on a territorial dispute over ownership of four small Soviet-held islands north of Japan.

On Thursday, Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev told Japan's lower house speaker, Yoshiro Sakurai, in Moscow that such a dispute did not exist between the two countries and that he would not make a scheduled visit to Japan if it threatened to be counter-productive, Japanese media reports said.

Yesterday, Gorbachev told Daisaku Ikeda, head of a large

Japanese Buddhist organisation, that he was ready for a "substantial compromise" with Japan and said he would like to come to Tokyo next April, local media reported.

"Japan should not place overwhelming importance on the islands and instead pursue a policy of expanding overall ties with Moscow," Kaiju told a group of newspaper editors yesterday.

Kaiju welcomed North Korea's initiative in allowing a visit by an LDP delegation in September, the first time Pyongyang has agreed to direct contacts with Japan's ruling party.

The North Korean agreement came earlier this week in talks in Pyongyang with members of a Japan Socialist Party delegation, traditional North Korean allies in Japan.

The agreement to open a channel through the LDP indicated the Pyongyang government was ready for a compromise on the issue of two Japanese sailors held on espionage charges since 1983, Kaiju said.

The Soviets announced in 1988 that they planned to pull troops out of this Central Asian satellite state, where they confronted Chinese forces during the nearly three-decade Sino-Soviet rift. This year, Moscow said it would pull all of its troops out by 1992.

Neither the Soviets nor Mongolians have said how many soldiers are involved, but Western experts estimated the figure at 60,000 before the pullout began in 1989.

Soviets pull out of Mongolia faster than planned

ULAN BATOR, July 28, (AP): About 80 per cent of the Soviet troops stationed for decades in Mongolia have been withdrawn in an acceleration of Moscow's planned pullout, the deputy chief of the Mongolian army general staff said.

The pullout has left Mongolia with thousands of apartments, hospitals and other buildings built and used by the Soviets. Col. Dorgjotov told a news conference. Like many Mongolians, he uses only one name.

Dissidents allowed to visit Pyongyang

SEOUL, July 28, (Reuter): South Korea said today it would conditionally allow dissidents to make an unprecedented joint Independence Day rally at the border next month.

Official squabbling over procedural details scrubbed a Seoul meeting scheduled for Thursday and yesterday at which North Korean officials and the Chonminyon dissident coalition were to discuss the rally.

After the five-member Northern delegation abandoned its attempt to cross to the South at the border village of Pambumun yesterday, Chonminyon dissidents and representatives of overseas Koreans immediately made a proposal for a meeting in Pyongyang on August 6.

The South Korean government of trying to block the rally and offered to hold talks next Monday and Tuesday in Pyongyang.

The government policy is to allow the visit to Pyongyang only when Southern delegates represent various segments of society, not only a particular group," South Korea's Vice Unification Minister Song Han-ho told reporters.

"Even if the delegation is composed of figures representing various sectors, authorities of the South and North must reach an accord to guarantee their safety," he said.

North Korea on Friday castigated the South for failing to accept a "rational compromise" on transport and accommodation after its delegation, accompanied by 10 reporters, tried to vainly cross the border for a second day.

The preparatory meeting in question was held on Friday, minus the North Koreans, at a private conference room in northern Seoul.

An opinion poll by the Mongolian Revolutionary Youth Union, no longer controlled by the Communist Party, said 62 per cent of 600 people polled would vote for opposition parties in the Small Hural's 53 seats.

The Small Hural is expected to be in session almost permanently with the power to pass legislation pending approval by the president, diplomats and Mongolian officials said.

Dorgjotov said some units originally scheduled to leave next year were going early in what he indicated was a unilateral Soviet decision.

"(Army) motor units in the Erdene city area were to leave in 1991, but the last part of that unit will leave by (today)," he said. "Soviet units that were stationed at Erdene, Nalaita, Choybalsan and Sandshand have been completely withdrawn."

Asked how many were left, he said: "We don't know. This is the internal affair of the Soviet army."

The campaign has been low-key, with parties differing only in degree on common promises of free-market capitalism, democracy, freedom, opening to the West and a revision of history distorted by a succession of despotic communist rulers.

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"There are a range of security issues that need to be discussed that are not being discussed," he said.

A senior US official said he did not expect an immediate response to the ideas, but predicted a heated debate in Asia on ways of handling regional security.

An expected showdown between ASEAN and the US on Cambodia failed to materialise. Baker appeared to have mollified Asian nations over Washington's recent withdrawal of support for the guerrilla coalition fighting the Communist government there.

The European Community announced today that it is prepared to set up a comprehensive programme for the repatriation of Indochinese boat people.

The United States, shifting long-standing policy, announced last

week that it would hold talks next month with the communist government of Vietnam, the patron of the Hun Sen government. The United States also decided to withhold diplomatic recognition at the United Nations from the three-party coalition fighting to topple the Cambodian government.

"I welcome the negotiation between the USA and Vietnam over Cambodia," Hun Sen said. "But I think they have to admit the fact that the issue of the domestic problem of Cambodia must be resolved only by the people of Cambodia," he added.

Plans for a meeting of the three Cambodian guerrilla groups in Paris next week have been shelved because the Khmer Rouge appears not to want to take part, a guerrilla spokesman in Bangkok said today. (Reuter)

In search of 'Doolittle Raiders'

US group to look for missing planes in China

EDES PRAIRIE, Minnesota, July 28, (AP): Forty-eight years after a group of American pilots known as Doolittle's Raiders pierced the skies of Japan during World War II, the squadron's navigator is helping search for planes that crashed.

Retired Col. Henry A. Potter said yesterday he will join the search in China's Zhejiang province, where his B-25 bomber and four others went down after their famous mission of April 18, 1942 — the first successful air raid against Japan during World War II.

The 16-plane squadron from the aircraft carrier USS Hornet boosted the morale of the American public following the December 1941 attack on Pearl Harbour. The plane flown by Col. James H. Doolittle was the first fully loaded bomber ever to take off from an aircraft carrier.

The mission was so secret that even President Franklin Roosevelt was not informed, said Potter, 71, of Austin, Texas.

Doolittle trained the crew for the short takeoff at a landing strip in Florida. Potter was the navigator of Doolittle's lead bomber.

"I don't think we exhibited any more courage than anyone else," Potter said, recalling the takeoff. "I don't think any of us thought about anything other

than that we were doing our job."

The skies cleared before the planes reached their targets, and the bombs were dropped successfully on key industrial sites.

The bombers tried to flee mainland China, but stormy weather made it impossible for them to reach safe haven.

One of the planes landed in Russia. The other 15 landed in the water near the China coast or crashed after the crews bailed out, according to an official war department report of the mission.

All 80 crew members made it to the ground safely, but eight were captured by the Japanese. Of those, three were executed by their captors, one died in prison and four were released when the war ended.

Forty-four of the original Doolittle Raiders, including Doolittle, are still alive. Potter said, Doolittle is 93 and lives in Carmel, California.

Potter said there has been talk about searching for the planes over the years, but he said the expedition near the mountain villages of Lijian and Quzhou, in an area to the south of Shanghai, will be the first. Bryan Moon, an artist and amateur historian, is leading the expedition.

Kremlin offer rejected

Gorbachev defied by Baltic states, Armenians

MOSCOW, July 28, (Agencies): Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia have rejected a Kremlin offer to help rewrite the treaty that created the Soviet Union and reiterated their preference for joint talks with Moscow on independence.

Lithuanian President Vytautas Landsbergis, Estonian President Arnold Ruutel and Latvian President Anatoly Gorbov made the statements today after a meeting yesterday of their Baltic Council.



Festival of gypsies

A gypsy girl dances as she prepares for her performance on Romfest July 27. The event is the first International Festival of Gypsy culture which is being held over a two-day period in Maria's Valley near Brno, Czechoslovakia. (Reuter wirephoto)

RAF still a lethal threat in Bonn

BONN, July 28, (AP): Counter-terrorism officials beamed with pride over the recent roundup in East Germany's notorious Red Army Faction.

But yesterday's attack on Hans Neuseil confirmed security officials' worst fear. The two-decade-old battle against one of Europe's most persistent and deadly terror groups is still not over.

West German security officials boasted about the arrests, but at the same time warned a new string of attacks may be imminent.

About three hours after yesterday's bombing, Neuseil, the Interior Ministry's top terrorism expert, showed clear frustration over the seemingly unending struggle against the Red Army Faction.

Neuseil said the gang's violent central core has apparently taken on new people from its ranks of ideological supporters.

"We are not able to quantify this growth or give the individuals names," he said.

The attack was a serious blow to the morale of German anti-terror officials after success in rounding up some alleged gang members long wanted by the law.

Over the past several weeks eight alleged members of the gang were arrested in East Germany. East German officials charge that the ousted communist leadership sheltered the alleged terrorists.

The Red Army Faction grew out of West Germany's radical left-wing scene of the 1960s. Many of its members have been students espousing Marxism and hatred for the capitalist system.

The gang first surfaced in April 1968, the day four assailants launched an arson attack on two Frankfurt department stores.

The group was originally known as the Baader-Meinhof gang, named after two of its founders, Andreas Baader and Ulrike Meinhof. Both Baader and Meinhof killed themselves in the 1970s while serving prison sentences.

In 1971, the organisation adopted its current name, and over the years has launched a string of assassinations, robberies and bombings that have given the gang international infamy.

On Nov. 10, 1974, the gang killed West Berlin judge Guenter von Drenkman in his apartment.

Other victims, all killed in 1977, include then-federal prosecutor Siegfried Buback, Hanns Martin Schleyer, the kidnapped head of the Employers Association, and Dresdner Bank spokesman Juergen Ponto.

Stasi-linked MPs barred Election row nearing end

BONN, July 28, (Reuter): East and West German politicians of all colours seemed to have agreed today how to elect the first parliament of a united Germany on December 2, ending a row which almost toppled East Berlin's government.

The only opponent was the East German Communist Party, which the compromise is designed to keep out of the new assembly.

Leaders of other major parties backed a plan to help smaller East German groups into a united parliament even if they win less than the minimum five per cent of the vote they need under Bonn's electoral system.

"To give East Germany's new democrats a chance, it is important that just this once we let small groups stand on a shared list with big parties," said Johannes Gerster, parliamentary spokesman on domestic policy for Chancellor Helmut Kohl's conservative alliance.

This would mean two parties could field a combined list of candidates which, if it won more than five per cent of the vote, would ensure seats for both parties in the new parliament.

East Germany's Christian Democrats (CDU) have barred 24 of their deputies from political life in a united Germany after discovering alleged ties to the formal Stasi security police, a newspaper reported today.

Solidarity splits

WARSAW, July 28, (AP): A breakaway branch of Solidarity today formed a new party to rival the faction that backs Lech Walesa.

The new party, the Citizens Movement for Democratic Action, includes many heroes of Solidarity's struggle against communism.

It is the latest group to split from Solidarity, which has declared their intent to follow at the end of unspecified transition periods.

Jaruzelski called on to step down

WARSAW, July 28, (Reuters): Supporters of Polish Solidarity leader Lech Walesa's bid for the presidency have demanded the resignation of President Wojciech Jaruzelski, newspaper said today.

In its first political move, the congress voted nearly unanimously to endorse a constitutional amendment mandating a popularly elected president.

Currently, the president is chosen by the two chambers of parliament. The new party's members include many of Walesa's long-time advisers and allies in Solidarity.

US air force ends continuous 'looking glass' flights

WASHINGTON, July 28, (UPI): With President Bush's approval, the air force this week quietly ended its 29-year-old practice of keeping a "looking glass" emergency command plane in the air at all times in case of a surprise nuclear attack.

With no fanfare or advance public notice, the last in an uninterrupted string of flights named "looking glass" landed at Offutt air force base near Omaha, Nebraska, at 2:28 pm Tuesday.

The United States began the flights from

Offutt on Feb. 3, 1961, shortly after the inauguration of President John F. Kennedy and at the height of the cold war.

Ever since then, one of several EC-135 planes—a military version of a Boeing 707—has been flying over the United States at all times to act as an emergency command post should a surprise nuclear attack kill the top US political and military leaders.

As soon as one plane landed, the next would take off. But that practice ended Tuesday, with more than a quarter of a million

hours of accident-free flying.

Now, the looking glass planes will remain on ground alert and fly "random sorties" each week, Maj Dennis Pierson, a spokesman for the strategic air command at Offutt, said in a telephone interview yesterday.

Budgetary constraints and the ability of intelligence-gathering satellites played more of a role in the decision than recent changes in Eastern Europe or improved US-Soviet relations, he said.



Yeltsin (second right) stands with leaders of the three Baltic states; from left to right, Vytula Landsbergis of Lithuania, Arnold Ruutel of Estonia and Gobunov of Latvia July 27. (Reuter wirephoto)

Taylor forms parallel govt

Rebels fight for Monrovia

ABIDJAN, July 28, (Agencies): Liberian rebel leader Charles Taylor announced the formation of a new government as his forces and those of a rival rebel group battled their way to the last stronghold of President Samuel Doe in central Monrovia.

Taylor said in a radio broadcast last night that Doe's administration had been dissolved and he had formed a new government, the National Patriotic Reconstruction Assembly.

He promised free multi-party elections within six months and called

Diplomats fear infighting among the rebels once Doe's last bastion, his heavily fortified seafront mansion, is overcome.

Shortly after Taylor announced his new government, the US State Department said Doe was still holding out at the eight-storey mansion.

Diplomats say he is holed up with several hundred elite troops from his minority Krahn tribe and a large stockpile of ammunition.

The two rebel factions appear to be fighting separately against Doe, but Johnson's forces, which are thought to number only a few hundred, have clashed several times with Taylor's 15,000-strong NPFL over the past two months.

Diplomats say Taylor's forces would probably win any showdown between the two groups.

Despite Johnson's prominent role in the battle for Monrovia, his forces control only a few northern suburbs of the city.

Taylor's mainstream NPFL on the other hand controls the eastern suburbs of Monrovia, the international airport at Robertsfield, the port of Buchanan — Liberia's second largest city — and most of the densely-forested interior.

Doe has vowed to fight on, but diplomats say the 38-year-old master sergeant, who seized power in a bloody coup 10 years ago, is drinking heavily and has lost touch with reality.

He is also thought to be a virtual prisoner of his indisciplined and demoralised troops, who have subjected Monrovia to an orgy of looting and tribal killings.

The soldiers' main victims are members of the Gio and Mano tribes, firm supporters of the rebel movement.

Diplomats said this week alone, over 100 Manos and Gios have been dragged from their houses and hospital beds to be butchered by Doe's soldiers. Many of their bodies have been dumped on Monrovia's beaches.

Doe's Krahn tribe accounts for only five per cent of Liberia's 2.3 million population and it now fears massive reprisals by the victorious rebels.

Officials in neighbouring Ivory Coast said 1,000 Krahns a day have been fleeing across the border for the past week.

Although the rebels are known to have carried out some tribal killings, foreign correspondents observing their advance into Monrovia on Friday said they seemed well disciplined and respectful of civilian lives.

Taylor, a 42-year-old US-trained economist and former Doe associate, wants to promote private investment and retain Liberia's traditionally close ties with the United States.

Liberia was founded by freed US slaves in 1847 and its population is unique in Africa for speaking English with a strong American accent.

Bid to bomb SADF offices

JOHANNESBURG, July 28, (Reuters): Police said they defused a powerful car bomb in a building used by the South African Defence Force (SADF) beside a crowded street of the capital Pretoria today.

Spokesman Captain Rex Maree said the bomb was in a multi-storey car park beneath the Hallmark Building, which houses SADF offices.

An explosion on the building's second floor would have blasted through a grille in the wall and onto one of the most crowded streets in the city, killing many people, he said.

Police were alerted by a passer-by who noticed the bomb connected to an activated timer in the car at about 9 am.

A shopping arcade runs through the Hallmark Building.

Maree said the explosives were of communist origin.

He did not know who planted the bomb and no claim of responsibility had been received.

On Friday evening a limpet mine exploded one metre (yard) from an oil storage tank in Cape Town harbour but caused no injuries or damage, police said.

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Of the 127 people arrested, 74 were detained outside the southern city of Port Elizabeth, where demonstrators refused a police order to disperse, authorities said.

South African judges gained the right on Friday to decide for themselves whether to impose the death penalty for certain crimes, giving new hope to hundreds of people on death row.

All current death sentences will be reviewed in terms of the new law on sentencing, which became effective on Friday, Justice Minister Kobie Coetsee said in a statement.



Liberian rebels evacuate one of their wounded during a battle against government soldiers at Scheffelin's military camp outside Monrovia. (Reuter filephoto)

Dissident Johnson

ABIDJAN, July 28, (Reuters): Dissident rebel Prince Johnson, now fighting for control of the Liberian capital Monrovia, remains an unknown quantity in a volatile situation, diplomatic sources said on Saturday.

Johnson controls a mobile force of 200 to 400 men but has fallen out with the main rebel army of Charles Taylor's National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL).

The rival groups have skirmished several times since Taylor launched the rebellion by invading Liberia's Nimba county from Ivory Coast last December with about 150 men, including Johnson, with the aim of overthrowing President Samuel Doe.

The reasons for the split were obscure but some sources said Johnson, like Doe once an ordinary soldier in the Liberian army, had accused Taylor's forces of killing some of his men.

As Johnson's rebels battled the remnants of Doe's army in the streets of Monrovia on Friday, Taylor announced on rebel radio that he had ousted the government and set up an NPFL administration which would hold elections within six months.

The sources said it was unclear whether Johnson was opposed to Taylor becoming president or whether he was fighting for a share of power in a Taylor-led government once Doe was ousted.

Little was known about Johnson's political views, the sources said, apart from the fact that he did not accept Taylor's unconditional leadership of the rebel movement.

Johnson fled Liberia after an unsuccessful attempt in 1985 to overthrow Doe, as a military instructor. He had risen to the rank of captain after Doe, then a master sergeant, seized power in a bloody coup in 1980.

Liberian sources said he was reputed to be an excellent soldier, a charismatic figure and a persuasive speaker.

Although he took part in the original rebel invasion, he had always remained somewhat aloof from Taylor and the NPFL, they said.

Like Taylor's NPFL, Johnson's force was recruited mainly from the Gio and Mano tribesmen of Nimba county to combat Doe's Krahn-dominated army in what quickly turned into a tribal conflict.

As the rebels advanced out of Nimba county, Johnson captured the town of Gbanga in central Liberia from Doe's troops, but later withdrew and left it to Taylor.

BRITISH CITIZENS

The British Embassy Consular Section reminds British Citizens who are resident in Kuwait, and Citizens of other Commonwealth countries without a Mission in Kuwait, that they should renew their registrations at the Consulate for 1990; if they have not already done so. Renewals may be made by mail or telephone.

All registrations not renewed since June 1988 will be discarded.

Those making a final departure from Kuwait in the near future are requested to cancel their registration with the Consulate shortly before leaving, in order to assist accuracy of records.

British Embassy, Consular Section,
Arabian Gulf Street,
P.O. Box 2, 13001 Safat, Kuwait.
Telephone: 243-2046/7/8/9
Fax: 240-7395

Agro-production field attracts local manpower

Generous state support

THE deputy chairman of the Kuwait Union of Agro-production Co-operative Societies Marzouq Mifreh Al Tammar has said agro-production depends mainly on manpower and on the suitable condition of arable or reclaimed soil, and lastly the needed fertilisers and machinery. He told a locally-produced

magazine, Al Hasad, that manpower is now available in Kuwait, and the field of agro-production, animal resources, poultry, and fish has attracted many citizens to become a rich scope of investment. He pointed out to government's generous support of producers which included offering tracts of land.

encouragement loans and incentives, besides all needed theoretical guidance equipment and irrigation water, both brackish and treated affluent.

He called for the combining of efforts by government and people to optimise the implementation of agricultural projects. He

added that this vital field has been coming in for steady support from the government and HH the Amir and HH the Crown Prince.

Tammar also pointed out the union's contribution to the expansion of Kuwait's agricultural projects, and related

services, adding that there is ongoing co-operation between the producer and consumer unions to further expand the scope of these services and that major steps have of late been taken to provide reliable marketing channels for local produce in all five governorates in the country.

He said that the development of agriculture is a national duty, which must sincerely be honoured by all farmers. The observance of directions issued by the Public Authority for Agricultural Affairs and Fish Resources is necessary to step up production and secure optimum results, Tammar said.

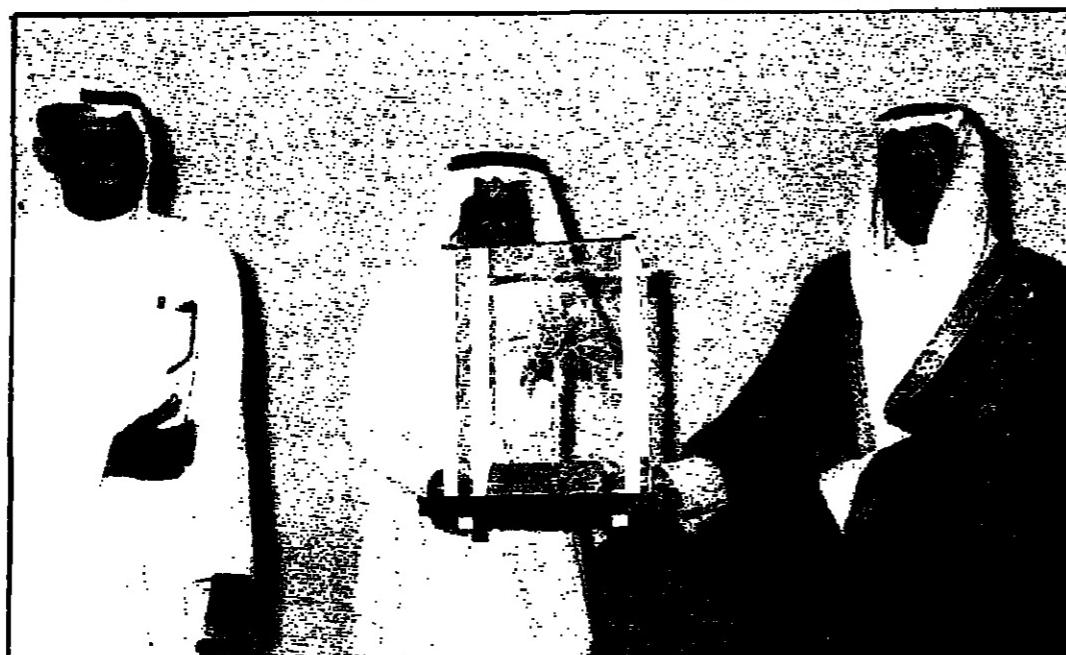
Riyadh, Beijing relations positive

KUWAIT, July 23, (Kuna): The close viewpoints between Saudi Arabia and China and the awareness by both of the necessity to establish ties had hastened the decision to exchange diplomatic relations, announced July 21, China's first ambassador to the kingdom said in press statements.

Ambassador-designate Sun Bi Gan, who will shortly present his credentials to the Saudi authorities, described the event of establishing relations between his country and Saudi Arabia as one of positive reflections on the regional and world levels.

He told that the first step towards establishing ties with Riyadh was the opening of trade representation offices in both Riyadh and Beijing back in 1988.

The envoy indicated that relations between the two sides, given the weight they represent at regional and world levels as well as their distinguished position would positively reflect upon maintenance of world peace and opening of vast horizons for multi-sided co-operation.



Sheikh Ibrahim Al Duaij receives a commemorative gift from Mohammad Khalifa.



Duaij speaking at the celebrations at the Kuwaiti Agronomists Society.

Lack of qualified administrators

Need to attract Kuwaitis: Duaij

THE Director-General of the Authority for Agriculture Affairs and Fish Resources, Sheikh Ibrahim Al Duaij Al Sabah was quoted as saying that the authority suffers a lack of national qualified cadres in the non-agricultural specialisations such as accounting and administration.

Speaking at a celebration organised by Kuwaiti Agronomists Society in his honour to mark his designation as the honorary chairman of the Society, the official commented that national cadre were in short supply in various other state's departments in the field of technical expertise and this was also evidenced at the agricultural level.

He commented that most Kuwaiti youths refrained from joining some state's authorities and preferred to join others due to the difference in the payment of allowances and other advantages.

He disclosed that he was personally following up with authorities the possibility of equalising the position of personnel working as agronomists with those of other engineering specialisations. This is intended to encourage Kuwaiti youth to join the authority in the future. Meanwhile, the official called on other agricultural corporations and companies to extend more advantages to attract Kuwaiti cadres.

Replies to a question, Sheikh Ibrahim confirmed that the main structural organisations at the authority have been finalised. He clarified that many positions in the authority were being created in accordance with the new organisation including the post of Deputy Director general. He added that the organisation has been set up in keeping with the administrative development process in the country and to keep abreast with the leap which is expected to be realised during the 1990s decade.

Concluding his speech, he confirmed his authority's support to any

action which might be taken by the State represented by H.H. the Amir aimed at preserving the country's security and stability.

During the ceremony, the chairman of Kuwaiti's Agronomists Society Mohammed Khalifa in his speech praised the problems facing Kuwaiti agronomists in addition to his role towards the provision of the necessary incentives for Kuwaitis working in the agricultural field.

Meanwhile, the society issued a statement in which it confirmed its support to the measures taken by the government aimed at preserving national unity.

Meanwhile, the latest Arab economic report obtained by Kuna has said that nearly 132 million acres of land are fit for agriculture in the Arab world and only 30 per cent is used.

The report, which coincides with today's meeting of the Arab agricultural ministers in Amman, pointed out that 22 million Arabs are presently working in the agricultural sector, representing 38.5 per cent of Arab manpower.

The Arab world still depends on imports of major foodstuffs more than any other region in the world, said the report. It added that the Arab agricultural exports heavily outweigh agricultural imports as the ratio between the two stood six-to-one in 1987.

The report warned that the present situation does not correspond with what the Arab world enjoys of natural resources.

The report said the importance of the agricultural sector in the economies of the Arab countries varies from one country to another noting that the contribution of agriculture in the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in 1988 was about 1.4 per cent in Kuwait and Qatar and 50 per cent in Somalia.

KU to expand existing facilities

Over KD 150m allocated

IN its five-year plan 90/91-94/95, Kuwait University's main objective is to expand the capacity of existing academic facilities and students buildings, in order to accommodate the steadily increasing numbers of students and meet the needs for new academic facilities to cover the requirements of university education before the start of the 21st century.

The university strategy to achieve this is based on two main projects, one involves the development of existing five university sites in Khaldiya, Shuwaikh, Adaliya, Jabiya, and Keifan, and the second is the construction of an integrated university campus to meet the growing student population.

As to the first project, the relevant construction schedule has been finalised and is ready for implementation, and quite a large part of it will be completed over the years of the plan.

As to the second project, the general concept of the pre-development plans and planning designing stages has been outlined, and construction will commence upon the completion of the first project.

A deep look at both projects will enable one to realise that both are aimed at ameliorating, developing and upgrading the performance level of existing university facilities and to expand their capacity to the maximum level possible to accommodate 20,000 students within the context of an academic plan to develop and re-organise study programmes with the intention of making certain additions.

The construction schedule is based on four major items, which include the construction of a new building to accommodate the number of students that the existing facilities cannot take up for capacity limitations, renovation and exterior remodelling of existing students buildings for added performance, optimisa-

tion of existing site services to be better able to meet the added operational burdens, and lastly the landscaping and greening of the existing site, provision of safety requirements and achieving architectural harmony as becoming of academic facilities.

The total budget allocated for the development of the existing five academic facilities is KD 126,433 million, and this figure is expected to increase by KD 40 million due to the rising cost of building and construction, with the estimated construction cost breaking down to 58 per cent as main development project, on Shuwaikh site, 27 per cent for the campus in Khaldiya, 9 per cent for the site in Jabiya, 1.5 per cent for the site in Keifan, 1 per cent for the site in Adaliya and 3.5 per cent for construction project management.

The university site in Shuwaikh, being the site with the major share of construction projects, will involve a number of projects such as the expansion of existing students buildings in the faculties of social science and law, at a total area of 40,000 square metres, and the project will utilise the existing site of the faculty of arts, and the completion date is September 1993.

The projects to be constructed on the Shuwaikh campus will include the conversion of use of 12 students residential buildings into classrooms and offices for the teaching staff, a building for administration, stores and workshops which will occupy a 16,000 square metre site to be completed by the end of this year.

The project will also include the construction of a social entertainment centre, a central kitchen, a central library, a computer centre, underground parking facilities, conference rooms, theatre and other key facilities.

In Khaldiya there are a number of projects which involve the expansion of the existing

Science College building and administration offices as well as the library, and the construction of new classrooms, parking lots, new cafeteria, expansion of the geology workshop besides the renovation and exterior remodelling of a number of existing students buildings.

In Jabiya, the pre-development studies for the construction of a complex combining a new college for paramedics and medical sciences, as well as a college of pharmacology and dental medicine on a projected site area of 30,000 square metres, including the site of the existing medical building, to form a medical science centre.

In Odaiya, the projects involve the development of existing campus remodelling of existing buildings exterior, landscaping and service grids and the construction of new gates and security fences, as well as the provision of new signs in and outside the main access of the Faculty of Commerce, Economics and Political Sciences.

The second main project in the Kuwait University strategy involves the construction of a new university campus in Shadadiya which will be designed to take up 20,000 students to meet the projected increase in the demand for academic services and facilities at the outset of the 21st century.

With a projected 400,000 square metre site, 20 metre of academic and related facilities will be allocated for each student, while special residential accommodation will be provided for 20 per cent of the total student population projected for the new campus which will include married student couples.

The site will also include 100,000 square metres for sports facilities, and the exact location of these facilities will be determined upon final endorsement of the proposed new site drawings.

ICF gives memo to Indian minister

DURING the recent visit of the Civil Aviation Minister, Arif Khan in Kuwait, a delegation of Indian community representatives, Indian Cultural Forum president N.V.K. Warrier, Biren Mullik, K.C. Kousal and Babu Thumpamon met the minister and submitted a memorandum.

The memorandum carried the complete details of the fare hike by Air-India on the tickets of flights from Kuwait to various destinations in India and also showed how exorbitant the fare rate in the Gulf sector compares to European and Asian sectors.

The delegation also brought to the attention of the minister the pitiful plight of nearly thousand wageless workers of Al Quran project who left for India and their pending case of the balance payment of nearly more than one crore rupees.

The delegation requested the minister to take effective steps to finalise the case as early as possible to relieve the workers from their debt.

The minister listened to the delegation and assured them that he would take effective measures immediately after getting the parliamentary committee report specially constituted to enquire into the matter.

Regarding the pending cases of the workers minister gathered the details of the case from the ambassador and assured the delegation that he would enquire into the matter.

The delegation told the minister that as a part of the relief work of the community, an amount of rupees one lakh ten thousand had been deposited in the name of the poor widow and two children of a deceased Indian worker of Al Quran project and they would get an interest of rupees one thousand one hundred and seventy five per month for ten years.

Bakhtiar

KUWAIT University has earmarked 2,900 seats for students in the first semester and 300 in the second. These students will be accommodated at different faculties in accordance with the 1990-95 five-year-plan.

Speaking to a local daily, Musaed Al Dakheel, the General Registrar at the university said that Kuwaiti students with secondary certificates from abroad will be admitted as well as children of expatriate teaching staff, children of diplomatic envoys to Kuwait and candidates from Arab and foreign countries.

Expatriate students studying in Kuwait would be admitted provided they had completed all stages of studies in Kuwait and possess secondary certificates.

Outstanding students at the faculties of Public Authority for Applied Education and Training will also be admitted to the university.

The official said that all applications submitted up to July 18 had been scrutinised through computers on a highly confidential basis under the supervision of the Dean of Admission and Registration.

(Continued from Page 1)

■ Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs; Dr Abdulrahman Al Awadi
■ Minister of State for Housing Affairs, Yahya Fahd Al Sumait
■ Finance Minister, Sheikh Ali Khalifa Al Athbi
■ Minister of Health, Dr Ahmad Al Jassar
■ Central Bank Governor, Sheikh Salem Abdulla Al Saad
■ Members of the National Council, Wahid Al Mudhaif, Jasem A. Al Amir, Kathem Bouabbas, Jawad A. Al Mairok and Fayed H. Al Bdaiwi

His Highness also received the ambassador of the United Arab Emirates Obeid K. Al Zaabi on the occasion of his appointment to Kuwait and the ambassador of Brazil on the occasion of his end of term here.

Palestinian ambassador to Kuwait Avni Battash today expressed the Palestine Liberation Organisation's satisfaction over the signs of desecration in the Iraq-Kuwait's crisis.

Battash, in a statement to Al Seyassat, expressed his belief that the Kuwaiti and Iraqi leaders can and will overcome this crisis with a solution that enhances their bilateral relations in the face of Zionist policies.

He further said PLO had been particularlyanguished by the sudden crisis between Iraq and Kuwait since it coincided with a surge of Israeli brutalities against Palestinian people in the occupied lands.

(Continued from Page 1)

tages in Lebanon and to France's relations with Tehran, intended to restart "militant activism" in Iran, Verge said.

Verge was taken to freedom in January when he ended a four-month hunger strike. Mitterrand had said he would not be released while he refused to eat.

Naccache, 40, whose fate during his 10 years in jail was linked to fatal bombings in Paris, to Western hos-

tales in Lebanon. "It can only relax the atmosphere," he added.

Panel for treatment abroad

By Diana Abou Haidar
Arab Times staff

MINISTER of Public Health, Dr Abdul Wahab Al Fouzan has formed a committee for organising the service of treatment abroad provided to Kuwaitis by the ministry.

All applications of patients seeking treatment abroad will have to be approved by the new Supreme Medical Committee. According to the ministerial decision, the committee will study the applications, interview the patients and ask for detailed medical reports from treating physicians in and outside Kuwait.

Any extensions on treatment time abroad has to be approved by the committee that is also given the right to recall the patient if it fails to see enough progress.

Also, any changes of hospitals or clinics in the country where the patient is receiving medical care, has to be approved by the committee after a recommendation by the treating physician.

Decisions and recommendations of the Supreme Medical Committee have to be approved by the undersecretary.

Members of the committee are: Dr Mahmoud Salama Al Bader, Dr Mohamad Salem Al Ayyad, Dr Abdul Latif Al Zaid, Dr Rashed Al Rushoud, Dr Abdul Raheem Al Zaid, Dr Mohamad Al Mishan and Dr Ahmed Ayat Al Ayaf.

ARAB TIMES GRAND

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Top Line: KD 25
Four Corners: KD 25

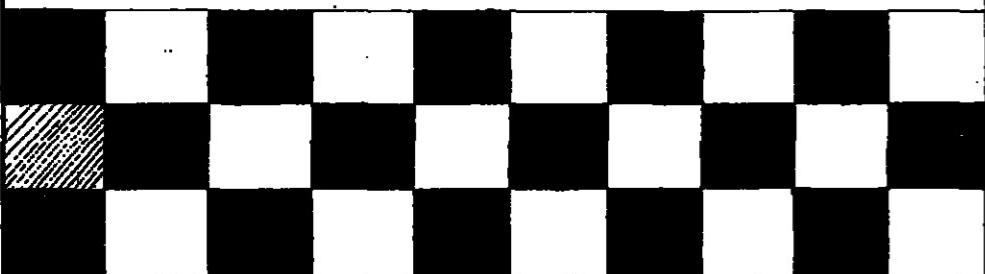
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 - Fill in your name and address in the
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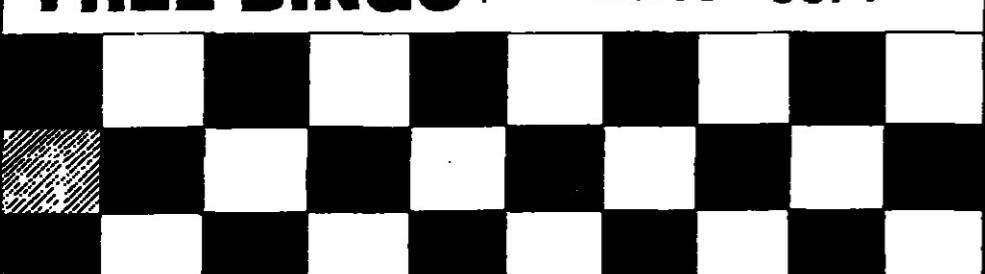
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Is the initial of your surname in the front of the envelope?

PLEASE PRINT YOUR NAME ON THE BACK OF THE ENVELOPE AND INITIAL OF YOUR SURNAME ON THE LEFT HAND TOP CORNER IN FRONT.

This is essential for the speedy checking of claims. Entries received without names and initials as mentioned above will be disqualified.

When you have completed your entry

card and copy card and filled in your name and address, send in your entries, by post, addressed to:

Bingo,
 Arab Times,
 P.O. Box 2270,
 13023 Safat Kuwait.

A surer alternative is to deliver by hand to the Arab Times, Al-Seyassah Building, Airport Road, Shuaikh.

Computers optimising performance at Justice Ministry

Statistical report for 1989 soon

THE director of the Computer Centre at the Justice Ministry Mohammad Hamad Al Roumi has said that the department is using computers and microfilm systems to optimise performance levels at the different departments of the ministry.

He told a local daily that the department is currently preparing to release the ministry's annual statistical report for 1989, which will contain a review of all different achievements accomplished by the ministry, supported by data and reports.

The existing computer system where real estate records are stored in the Real Estate Registration Department has high

specifications with quick retrieval of tar- get-info, Roumi said.

He added that the centre has of late released a statistical bulletin on a number of cases examined by the prosecution during 1989, which totalled 12,351 cases, and the centre also reviewed and scheduled 83,899 others, registered 10,108 marriage cases and 2,987 cases of divorce.

The department was established in 1980 for the purpose of introducing appropriate computer and microfilm systems into the work sites to upgrade work performance levels at all different ministry departments, Roumi said.

He added that the department provided different official agencies and government ministries, such as the Social Affairs and Labour Ministry, the Public Authority for Minors Affairs, the Public Authority for Civil Information, Ministry of Interior and the Amiri Diwan, with all need information and reports as well as answering all queries.

He said that the department paid great attention to encouraging Kuwaiti cadres to join in the various training courses organised in and outside Kuwait, and that over the past three years, the number of

Kuwaiti staff has, as a result, increased to 32 from 18.

He said that the number of non-penal cases examined by the Court of First Instance and related summary courts were 47,587, 39,457 were settled at a percentage of 82.9 per cent, while the number of divorce cases examined was 2,987, of which 1,811 involved Kuwaiti husbands.

404 cases of non-Muslims embracing Islam were brought before the court, while 60,787 others were submitted involving traffic violations. 60,518 were settled, bringing the total number of executed sentences to 18,778, Roumi said.

KD 250,000 allocated for theatrical movement

THE DIRECTOR of the department of the institutes and arts at the Ministry of Information Khaled Abdul Latif Ramadan has said that the Council of Ministers has allocated an annual budget of KD 250,000 for the fund of Higher Theatrical Committee, chaired by the minister Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al Hamad.

He told a local daily that the budget is considered an advanced form of support rendered by the government to back up the theatrical movement and to open up new chances for development and progress in keeping with the civilisational progress of the country.

He said that the budget will be used to fund quite a few ambitious projects aimed at further pushing forward the theatrical movement in the country, adding that this will enable a number of great projects to reach implementation.

The initial step to utilise the budget will be based on funding the production of local serious artistic works, and special rewards will be given for distinguished performances in the seasons to come, Ramadan said. He added that there will be special efforts to utilise the experience of brotherly Arab countries in establishing National Theatre in Kuwait, which will present works typical of what is going on at the local.

GCC meetings on changes

SALALAH, July 28, (Kuna): A GCC tripartite ministerial committee concluded meetings here recently aimed at appraising current international developments and their impact on the region.

Omani Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Yousef Ben Alawi said at the conclusion of the meeting that the ministers have discussed in detail the state of every region that observed changes recently around the world.

The committee will submit a report to the upcoming summit of the six member states of the Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) in light of the developments that might take place from now up to next December, Ben Alawi said.

Kuwait to boost oil programme

Research lab proposed



By Jadranka Porter
 Arab Times staff

KUWAIT may boost an enhanced oil recovery programme aimed at developing techniques to extract heavy and inaccessible oil. The move could result in a large increase in Kuwait's oil reserves and bring fresh assurances of its economic prosperity.

Dr Mohammad Salman, a KISR researcher, said that with careful planning the normally time-consuming and costly research can be made cost-effective.

Judging by the experience of Western countries he estimated that it would take between 10 and 15 years of home-grown exploration before an enhanced oil recovery technique could be put to commercial use.

To promote the project Dr Salman of Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research and colleague Dr Bader Rowaiq are putting together a proposal for an enhanced oil recovery research laboratory to carry out experiments on a miniature man-made oil reservoir. They hope to scale up the results for application in an oil field.

The research proposal comes at a time when Kuwait appears to be directing efforts towards developing national expertise and manpower in the oil sector to match its already vastly successful commercial operation. Kuwait University has recently opened a petroleum engineering department for students who opt

for a career in petroleum engineering.

If approved, the research proposed could pool talent from the university, the Kuwait Oil Company and the Higher Institute of Applied Technology. It could also help develop their research department. Speaking of future prospects for their proposal Dr Salman said: "We expect it will be given serious consideration." The scientists say they are encouraged by the results of the enhanced oil recovery pilot project carried out by KOC, but were unable to produce additional oil that otherwise could not be recovered by the conventional primary and secondary methods," he explained.

The proposed research, said Dr Salman, will focus on thermal recovery of heavy crude using steam injection. If it is approved the scientists will opt for physical modelling research. They will seek to build a model of an oil reservoir with all its geological and petrophysical properties and then set the parameters to help them scale it up for practical use. According to Dr Salman the latter will be among the most challenging tasks. "It is difficult to successfully apply an imported technology or scheme, every country has to develop its own research or at least adapt and modify an existing technique," he pointed out.

"Sooner or later we shall have to develop the technology in Kuwait to increase our production and to use the oil that is left in the ground," said Dr Salman. On average only 30 to 40 per cent of initial oil in place (an estimate of the oil in a known reservoir before the start of any production) can be recovered using conventional methods. The remaining could be recovered through the use of sophisticated techniques.

Kuwait has been fortunate that much of its oil can be recovered in primary production stages which means that natural forces, be it the pressure from the surrounding water aquifers, dissolved gases or gravity are used to produce the oil from the ground," said Dr Salman. "In the secondary stages gases or water are injected under pressure to help in recovering more oil, while in the tertiary stage, more exotic techniques using steam, chemicals, hydrocarbon gases and even bacteria can be used to produce additional oil that otherwise could not be recovered by the conventional primary and secondary methods."

Dr Salman said, "We expect it will be given serious consideration." The scientists say they are encouraged by the results of the enhanced oil recovery pilot project carried out by KOC, but were unable to produce additional oil that otherwise could not be recovered by the conventional primary and secondary methods," he explained.

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EDITORIALS

ARAB TIMES**Thought for today**

WHEN you have got a thing where you want it, it is a good thing to leave it where it is. — Sir Winston Churchill, British statesman (1874-1965).

Peace marked decade's end**Mideast strife stubborn**

By Augustus Richard Norton

CONSIDERING the shrill invective which marked much of the 1980s, the decade ended with some mellow episodes of political accommodation and peacemaking. In particular, the dampening of conflicts in Central America and Southeast and Southwest Asia spring to mind.

Any list of the decade's notable accomplishments would have included the Namibia settlement, and the general, if uneven, progress toward peace in southern Africa. The return of representative government to Chile and Nicaragua, both presaged as the 1980s closed, are among the decade's highlights.

But persistent, stubborn conflicts, especially in the Middle East and the Horn of Africa, show little hint of ending. The conflict in Lebanon descended yet a few more steps into the basement of horrors. The all but unnoticed carnage in southern Sudan and the dying in Ethiopia just go on and on.

These conflicts — each in their own way — illustrate a major danger of the 1990s: the spreading of inter-ethnic and inter-communal combat exacerbated by the unpredictable, but unavoidable process of modernization.

At the same time, the disappearance of a bipolar, superpower-dominated security system will foster a more unruly international regime. Third players may try to throw around their weight. Anarchic tendencies in the international system are fed by the global dispersion of sophisticated and lethal military technology through licensing arrangements and the development of indigenous arms production capabilities.

Missiles

As many as 15 Third World armies possess ballistic missiles, and about 10 others have active missile development programmes. Thought must be given to how the proliferation of these technologies will affect the nature of combat in the Third World. Military staffs around the world undoubtedly noted that the use of inaccurate Scud missiles by Iraq against Tehran had a decisive effect on Iran's willingness to accept UN Resolution 598.

Persistent regional and internal conflicts, as well as the axiomatic determination to protect national sovereignty, will ensure that defence will continue to consume a disproportionate share of Third World income.

Many developing countries now possess the means to thwart limited military operations, thereby rendering military solutions (i.e. intervention) less attractive to, and certainly more costly for, the great powers.

Third World politicians confront rapidly increasing populations whose demands exceed the ability of their governments to deliver. Demographic pressures accelerate the impact of social and economic change. Throughout the world, but especially in the developing countries, the economically productive segment of the population is shrinking while the elderly and young increase.

In the developed world the major trend has been toward graying of society — mean ages have increased and the proportion of the citizenry that is elderly is growing. In most developing countries, however, the most significant effect has been on the other end of the chronological scale. Improved health care and lower infant mortality rates, accompanied by high birth rates, have led to explosive increases in the number of children. In many Third World states half or more of the population is below the age of fifteen.

In already difficult economic circumstances, the portion of the population prone toward activism is expanding quickly, thereby further complicating the task of government and increasing the likelihood of repression.

Struggle

In many parts of the world where progress was once at least a dream, the struggle has now shifted to avoiding regression. In a nutshell, socio-economic change will continue to increase demands on already exhausted governments. This resource-demand gap, in turn, will inevitably add to internal cleavages along religious, ethnic, regional, or tribal fault lines. In many cases governments will further exacerbate tensions and deepen cleavages by promoting one group over another.

Everything we know about the Third World tells us the engine of change does not sever people's ties to family, lineage, and village. Rather, it reinforces those ties. Even that presumed cauldron of modernity, the city, becomes an extension of the values of the countryside. The stresses, strains, and crowding of the city create new passions for real and artificial national identities.

There can be no question that the spread of new ideologies, often grounded in religion, have promoted reshuffling of identities and political agendas. Whether in the form of liberation theology, radical Shiism or Judaism, or militant Sikhism, religion continues to gain momentum as a factor in Third World politics.

Those of us living in the fortunate, profligate West, may be inclined to try and forget the developing world. But the problems which dog Third World governments — building cohesive societies, winning legitimacy, and meeting the basic needs of citizens — will not always respect borders or be quietly resolved. In point of fact, it is a safe bet that the global agenda for the 1990s will be shaped largely by the imperative of responding to Third World crises.

Augustus Richard Norton is senior research fellow at the International Peace Academy. He recently presented these comments to a meeting sponsored by the World Peace Foundation and the Institute of International Studies, Brown University.

The Christian Science Monitor Publishing Society.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1030 — King Olaf, patron saint of Norway, is killed in battle.

1499 — Lepanto in Greece surrenders to forces of Turkey's sultan.

1656 — Mary Queen of Scots marries Henry, Lord Darnley, in Edinburgh.

1656 — Poles under John Casimir are defeated at Warsaw by combined Swedish-Brandenburg force.

1696 — Russia's Peter the Great takes Azov from the Turks.

1900 — Italy's King Humbert I is assassinated by an anarchist.

1921 — All-India Congress decides to boycott Prince of Wales' visit to India.

1922 — Allied powers issue ultimatum forbidding Greeks to occupy Constantinople (Istanbul).

1937 — Japanese seize Tientsin in China; 18-year-old Crown Prince Farouk is invested as king of Egypt.

1940 — Germany's all-out blitz against Britain begins in World War II.

1959 — Hawaii votes for first time as one of United States, and elects first Orientals to be seated in US Congress.

1973 — Voters in Greece endorse decisions by their leaders to abolish Greek monarchy and install George Papadopoulos as president.

1986 — South Africa's President P.W. Botha rejects British foreign secretary's plea for unconditional release of Nelson Mandela.

1989 — Israeli officials defend abduction of a pro-Iranian Muslim cleric.



Akihito sitting in a palace chamber in ancient costume as chamberlains stand by his side. (Reuter wirephoto)

Formal enthronement preparation underway**Japan debates Akihito nature**

TOKYO, (CSM): As a "symbol" of the nation, a role assigned to him by the constitution, the new emperor of Japan is preparing for his formal enthronement this fall amid a national debate over his very nature.

The debate centres on Emperor Akihito's use of \$14.3 million in government money to arrange a secret and nocturnal religious rite that some scholars claim will place him briefly with the deities of Japan's ancient Shinto faith.

Both the enthronement and the religious ritual, planned for November with dozens of foreign dignitaries present, will come nearly two years after the passing of Akihito's controversial father, Hirohito, whose own succession ceremonies took place in 1928.

Critics charge that the rite bestows a heavenly status to the emperor as a "living god," a centuries-old Shinto belief that was taught before World War II and used to rally people behind the Imperial Army.

To prevent the emperor from being used again for military or political purposes, United States occupation officials gave him a constitutional status as a symbol of the state, "deriving his position from the will of the people with whom resides sovereign power." Shintoism itself, a nature-worshipping faith with its own priesthood (only one of many religions in Japan), was also severed from state control.

But such changes on paper have not completely altered long-held beliefs and traditions that surround the emperor. For many Japanese, the issue of whether to publicly fund or even hold the Shinto ritual, known as Daijōsai, has evoked emotions as deep as those felt by many US citizens over the issue of whether their national symbol, the US flag, can be burned in protest.

This Daijōsai, in which the emperor will offer

specially grown rice to Shinto deities and his ancestors during the night of Nov 22 inside an imperial shrine, will be the first held under the post-war constitution.

A January poll of 3,000 Japanese by Mainichi newspaper showed 29 per cent supported the government funding, while 16 per cent said the affair should be privately held. Another 23 per cent did not care.

Some nationalists and right-wing groups plan to use the event to attack the American-imposed constitution and its limits on the emperor.

"For an emperor to establish his authority, he must go through Daijōsai," says Shusuke Nomura, a prominent nationalist. The US-imposed constitution, especially its restraint on the emperor and re-armament, is "like a kimono that doesn't fit Japan."

One leftist group, Middle Core Faction, promises to "crush the coronation." Many scholars, mainly Christian, are challenging the legality of the rite as being a violation of the constitution's separation of religion and state.

"Holding the Daijōsai implies that the emperor's legitimacy derives from the mythical Japanese sun-goddess (called Amaterasu)," says Kanichi Fukuda, president of Meiji Gakuin University. "Some scholars say the emperor actually enters the womb of the sun-goddess."

Consecrate

"Why should we consecrate the emperor and make him more than a common human?" asks. To deify the emperor "will inevitably invite the suspicions of those neighbouring countries to which Japan, under the guise of imperial divine sovereignty, caused such tremendous suffering," according to an April statement issued by presidents of four Japanese universities.

One justification offered by the government to

fund Daijōsai is that the event is similar to an American President-elect placing his hand on the Bible for the inauguration.

"Daijōsai is an important ritual and part of the long tradition of the Imperial Household," says Nobuo Ishihara, deputy chief cabinet secretary. "The government is not in any position to say whether the emperor becomes a deity."

To defend itself against a possible court challenge, the government contends that Daijōsai is a traditional part of the hereditary succession and enthronement of the emperor, which are provided for in the constitution.

But says Professor Fukuda, "The government has no legal basis for Daijōsai, therefore it can only appeal to tradition." State funding of the rite might have been avoided by appealing for private money, some scholars suggest.

In 1947, during the US occupation, mention of the ritual was eliminated from the Imperial Household Law, which governs the emperor's activities.

Nonetheless, the event is being reviewed probably at the emperor's approval, as a "public" event, although not with the same status as the enthronement itself, which takes place Nov 12 as a "state" ceremony.

Debate over the Daijōsai has been somewhat muted due to a fear of right-wing groups attacking those who openly question the emperor or the emperor system. Earlier this year, the mayor of Nagasaki was shot by a ultranationalist after the mayor criticised the wartime role of Hirohito.

Partly out of fear of reprisal and partly in deference to the emperor, almost all Japanese have not questioned the legality of Daijōsai in their editorials, although outside writers have been invited to express opinions.

Franco-Iranian feud assuages**Mitterrand exercises power of pardon**

PARIS, (Reuter): France's decision to pardon a pro-Iranian Lebanese gunman on Friday has removed a major obstacle blocking better relations with Tehran.

The release of Anis Naccache has been at the heart of diplomatic bargaining between the two countries over a nagging financial dispute.

French officials refused to say on Friday what persuaded President François Mitterrand to exercise his power of pardon allowing Naccache and four accomplices to step on an Iran Air flight to Tehran.

"We have absolutely no comment to make about the decision," one Mitterrand aide said.

The official silence was bound to feed speculation that the pardon was linked to complex negotiations over repayment of the late Shah of Iran's one-billion dollar loan to Eurodif, a French nuclear energy consortium.

Negotiations began in September 1989, marking the end of a poisonous chapter in relations which began shortly after Iran's 1979 Islamic revolution and included a break in diplomatic ties.

The Naccache affair has been a long-running source of conflict. He and his four-man guerrilla team were arrested in Paris in 1980 after killing a policeman and a bystander during a failed assassination attempt on Shapour Bakhtiar, the Shah's last prime minister.

Naccache and three others were given life sentences and a fifth was jailed for 20 years in 1982.

The talks in Paris and Tehran between Francois Scheer, the top diplomat at the French Foreign Ministry, and Iran's deputy Foreign Minister Mah-

moud Vaezi, have been conducted in total secrecy. The two last met in Paris on July 10, when French officials said publicly they did not discuss Naccache. Similar denials in the past have been greeted with scepticism.

The Iranian side however, publicly called for Naccache's release, accusing France of renegeing on a deal made in 1988, before adopting a more discreet position.

Tehran says former conservative Prime Minister Jacques Chirac agreed to free Naccache and his accomplices in return for the release of four French hostages held by pro-Iranian captors in Lebanon. Chirac denies he made such an undertaking.

The way is now clear for progress in the row over the Shah's loan to France's Atomic Energy Commission in 1974 for the Eurodif programme, under which French companies would build nuclear power plants and Iran would buy enriched uranium to power them.

After the Shah's fall Iran suspended the programme and demanded the loan be repaid. France has so far given back \$670 million but held up the rest until Iran settles French claims for breach of contract.

A French appeal court helped improve the climate last March, when it rejected claims totalling more than one billion dollars by French companies which lost business.



Mitterrand ... released Naccache

prevent an entire watch from patrolling the area.

It's not like my country where heinous crimes are on the rampage. Here it is the contrary. Speeding is more a problem here daily taking along the lives of innocent people who have families. We all saw Street Wars and I'm aware that this in itself won't alleviate the problem, but something has got to be done about it. Besides doesn't everyone know a little effort is better than none at all! The odds are the person caught speeding and charged, saved the lives of potential victims down the road. That very well might be only one life saved. But what is the value of life? Can we put a price on it?

In concluding I propose that not only radar checkpoints be situated along the highway, but that more strenuous charges also be applied. It is of my opinion that most violators are teenagers

who liken it to an Atari game.

Perhaps offenders should have automatic licence suspension for six months, and repeat offenders removal of licences indefinitely until the person acquires a reputable record of responsibility, say a job for example. In the meantime let's all buckle our seat belts and drive defensively.

Melinda F. Ali,
Fintas.

ALL Letters to the Editor must contain the writer's name and address. Publication is at the discretion of the Editor and letters are subject to the editing process for space or other reasons.

ARAB TIMES, SUNDAY, JULY 29, 1990

S. Africa**Law bending creates black suburban area**

SPROUTVIEW, South Africa. (CSM) From a distance, Ezra and Veronica Hlubi's neighbourhood resembles many small, modern communities in the United States heartland. A water tower rises 50 feet above rolling grassland; capital letters on the tower announce to visitors that they've arrived in Sproutview.

But the Hlubi family truly has arrived. They live in one of the first (and few) black suburban residential areas in South Africa.

Sproutview is almost equidistant from the crowded black township of Soweto and the whites-only suburbs of Johannesburg. For black South Africans it represents a rare opportunity — the chance to own property. South African law still forbids black ownership of land in areas designated for whites — about 87 per cent of the country.

A few blacks have moved into white neighbourhoods, but only through a back-door process in which they must set up partnerships with whites who then, legally, own the property.

Sproutview is an exception. In 1985, after riots in Soweto, the white South African government passed a law bending apartheid land restrictions and allowing Sproutview to be created. The legislation gave a white law firm — Joel, Melamed & Hurwitz — the right to develop and sell property to blacks in an area previously reserved for whites. This 1985 act of Parliament allows up to 3,000 one-acre sites in Sproutview. The Hlubis rushed to buy land and build a home here in 1986 — 1,500 square feet on an acre of tranquillity.

"It's much quieter here," says 15-year-old Nokwazi Hlubi. "The homes are bigger and you can own your own land, and do what you want with it ... you're not all squashed in like Soweto."

Sproutview is populated by families like the Hlubis; blacks who have managed to do well despite rigid racial segregation and the repression of apartheid laws. Those statutes still bar blacks from even the less expensive white neighbourhoods, where their money would buy more property and better homes.

Home sites in Sproutview cost as much as 25,000 rand (about \$10,000). With construction costs the final price tag can top \$60,000. Consequently, only 600 of the 3,000 home sites have been sold. "The people who live here probably represent the top 1 per cent of black income earners," says Rich Mkhondo, a Reuters reporter living in Sproutview.

Unlike many of their more prosperous neighbours, the Hlubis aren't always sure where the money will come from to pay the bills. Veronica Hlubi is a nurse, who works exhausting 16-hour days on two jobs. "I need a rest too," she says. "but there's nothing I can do. There are times when I'm so tired I want to cry ... but when I think about my kids, I carry on." Sproutview is perched on a hillside between the worlds of black and white South Africa. This provides a rare view into both societies — a vision that can be painful. "I feel very hurt because now I can see what the black nation has been deprived of for decades" says Ezra Hlubi. Perhaps nowhere is apartheid's legacy more bitter than in the classroom where, for the last 12 years, Hlubi has spent his days teaching.

Black schools still receive only one-fifth the money, per pupil, given to white schools. That translates into fewer facilities, less attention, and more frustration for dedicated teachers like Hlubi. "What can you call a school without a library?" he asks. Hlubi is a high school teacher and instruct

OIC experts adopt agenda for ministerial meeting in Cairo

CAIRO, July 28, (Agencies): Political experts representing 45 Islamic countries today met and approved the draft agenda for the annual 19th conference for foreign ministers of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC).

Chairman of the meetings, head of the Egyptian delegation Amr Moussa said the ministerial meeting will be held at a time of radical change in international relations.

He pointed out that Islamic nations should pool together their potentials to achieve continuous co-operation.

Conference sources told Kuna that four committees for political, media, economy and social affairs were formed today to prepare

for the foreign ministers' meeting due to open here Tuesday.

The political committee for the foreign ministers conference will chiefly discuss the Palestinian uprising, the Soviet Jews mass emigration to the occupied Arab lands and the Israeli occupation of South Lebanon and the Golan Heights.

He further said the committee talks may include the Iraq-Iran peace talks within the United States' threats to Libya and dumping of nuclear wastes in Islamic countries will also be discussed by the chief diplomats of the Islamic countries.

Political experts elected Senegal to

represent Africa, Turkey the Asian group and Palestine from the Arab group as co-chairmen of the OIC ministerial conference.

Syria wants Muslim countries to unite in resisting US-led efforts to get the United Nations to revoke a resolution equating Zionism with racism, a senior Egyptian official said today.

The disclosure came as experts from the 45 members of the Organisation of Islamic Conference met and adopted an agenda for the 19th annual foreign ministers meeting opening in Cairo next Tuesday.

The 85-item agenda also included the burning issue of Kashmir which threatens a new military confrontation between Pakistan and

India.

Moussa, who chaired the experts session, told reporters about the Syrian proposal, which was included in the agenda along with a Jordan-requested item on the same subject.

The UN resolution, adopted by the General Assembly in 1975, was strongly opposed by Israel, the United States and other Western countries. Arab, communist and many Third World countries approved it. It could not be blocked because the big powers have no veto in the assembly.

With strong congressional support, Washington has been trying to marshal enough backing among UN members to scrap the resolution.

The Syrian move is virtually certain to win overwhelming support at the Cairo meeting. All the Arab League's 22 members belong to OIC. Most or all others in the Islamic group back the Arabs in the conflict with Israel.

Agenda items with an anti-American ring included the US "aggression" against Libya and the "strategic alliance" between the United States and Israel. It was not clear whether the word "aggression" referred to a general American policy trend or specifically the US punitive air attacks on Tripoli and Benghazi in 1986 after a terrorist bombing in West Germany blamed on Israel.

Anti-Israel items included the influx of Soviet Jewish immigrants into the Jewish state and their settlement in occupied Arab lands, the Palestinian uprising in the West Bank and Gaza and "contesting Israel's UN credentials."

Previous challenges to Israel's credentials have failed and some OIC members are known to oppose this. They include Egypt, which signed a peace treaty with Israel in 1979.

The agenda also included customary fixtures like the Palestinian problem, the status of Jerusalem, Lebanon's civil war, the Iraq-Iran dispute, the situation in Afghanistan and Muslim minorities in non-Muslim countries, including the Philippines.

Neeman backs off chem arms claims

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, July 28, (AP): Science Minister Yuval Neeman backed away today from his call for Israel to respond in kind to Iraqi President Saddam Hussein's threats to use chemical weapons.

In the most far-reaching statement by an Israeli leader on the subject, Neeman said yesterday that Israel was ready to counter Iraqi threats.

"In my opinion, we have an excellent response, and that is to threaten (Saddam) Hussein with the same merchandise," said Neeman in an interview on Israel radio.

"And if there is an enemy like this, it is possible to prepare a suitable response," Neeman, who is also head of Israel's space programme said. "I have no doubt that also today we can respond to a threat like this."

Neeman's warning was the latest in a "war of words" started by Iraqi President Saddam Hussein when he said in April he would torch half of Israel with binary chemical weapons if attacked with nuclear arms by the Jewish state.

Israel is widely believed to have chemical weapons, but officials have never admitted it. A source in Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's office indicated yesterday that Shamir was displeased with Neeman's declaration and meant to discuss the radio interview with him.

Neeman said today that he had been misunderstood.

"I think the whole thing was taken out of context," the 65-year-old Neeman said on Israel radio.

"What I said was that the answer should be in kind. In kind could be heavy bombardments by our excellent air force ... I did say that it is no problem to produce chemical weapons but I did not call on Israel to start producing them."

However, Neeman, who served both as deputy director of army intelligence and scientific director of Israel's atomic energy programme, answered a direct question of whether Israel possessed such arms with, "that question should be asked of the minister of defence."

Defence Minister Moshe Arens also stepped up rhetoric against Iraq this week by saying the Iraqi threats have increased the likelihood of war.

Some analysts said Arens was trying to rally US support at a time when Congress is debating wide-ranging cuts in military spending that could affect Israel.

Dr Dore Gold, director of the US foreign and defence policy project at the Jaffa Centre of Strategic Studies said Israel's deterrent posture in the Middle East could be damaged if the Arab states perceived further strain in Israel-US relations.

US-Israel relations grew tense after Israel rejected US compromises aimed at advancing Middle East peace and after US made comments opposing the continued settlement of Jews in the occupied territories.

"The overall impression has been a declining relationship surrounding disagreements on the Palestinian issue which has damaged deterrence, Israel's deterrence of Arab states like Iraq, less so Syria," Gold said.

"If that process continues of a public display of tactical differences on the peace process then Israel-US common strategic objectives in deterring war can be undermined."

Saddam Hussein's remarks in April came after several Iraqis were arrested in London trying to smuggle US-made electronic devices that could be used to trigger nuclear weapons.

The United States said yesterday it would discuss with Israel claims by its science minister that the Jewish state had the chemical weapons capability to respond to Iraqi threats.

"We've seen those reports and we will be taking up the subject with the government of Israel," the State Department said in a terse written statement.

The department press office said it was unable to elaborate further.

A US official said it marked the first time Israel had publicly admitted its chemical weapons capability.

PLO, Amal launch 3-pronged assault

24 killed in battles for Hezbollah-held village

SIDON, July 28, (Agencies): Palestinian fighters joined ground battles in the inter-Shi'ites war in south Lebanon for the first time today, helping Amal fighters drive into a village held by their Hezbollah rivals.

Security sources said at least 24 people were killed and 80 wounded when the pro-Syrian militiamen and fighters loyal to PLO chairman Yasser Arafat launched a major assault on Kfar Milki, held by the Iranian-backed Hezbollah.

The three-pronged attack, carried out under a hail of artillery, rocket

and mortar fire, gained part of the village for Amal by noon, the sources said.

"The combatants at Kfar Milki and nearby hills are fighting metres away from each other," said one source, 12 hours after the battle erupted.

The sources said it was the first time PLO men had joined a major offensive in the war for control of the Iqlim Al Tufah area just north of Israel's self-declared security zone.

The 600 fighters who deployed last week to prevent Hezbollah expanding its territory had previously provided artillery cover for Amal.

Stray shells and rockets crashed into some 15 villages, sending black smoke billowing over the abandoned area. "The shelling is very heavy. We can hear 20 explosions a minute," said a resident of Sidon.

"Bodies are littering the streets of the battle zone where houses are burning out of control and fires are raging in forests, in mountains and valleys," said one witness who fled the area.

A Hezbollah spokesman denied losing any ground. "The attackers did not advance a single inch ... They suffered heavy losses ... Our decision is to defend our positions until death."

The Geneva-based International Committee of the Red Cross appealed to all sides to observe a four-hour ceasefire tomorrow to allow its teams to evacuate casualties.

The Iqlim Al Tufah battles broke out on July 16 when Hezbollah captured the strategic village of Jarjoun. Since then, the pro-Iranian militants have pushed back two major attempts by Amal to retake the village.

Amal has denied receiving help from Palestinian fighters while saying that Iranian Revolutionary Guards are supporting Hezbollah.

The Revolutionary Guards command has denied involvement and urged both sides to stop the fighting in which more than 162 people have been killed and 350 wounded.

Amal did not refer to the reported Palestinian involvement in the fighting and the police spokesman said Arafat's fighters have "sealed off" the confrontation zone preventing policemen and news reporters from monitoring combat developments.

Meanwhile, the Lebanese government held an emergency session today to decide on how to penalise Amal for sabotaging UN League-sponsored peace talks in Lebanon.

Backed by Syria and the League, the government of Salim Al Hoss will adopt a set of measures intended to defend the "last chance of peace," political sources told Kuna.

A defiant Arafat earlier in the week rebuffed a proposed settlement under which he would surrender his troops to the government forces and vacate the presidential palace in Zahlé.

The plan had been relayed to Arafat by Al Ibrahim who was turned down by Arafat as a peace broker.

Aoun has insisted that Al Ibrahim was only trying to market the Taif accord which the General continues to reject.

In a surprise visit to Damascus Thursday, Lebanese President Elias Hirwani was given assurances that Damascus will throw its weight behind the Lebanese government's move to restructure the economy.

Pope John Paul II last night launched the Vatican's latest effort to persuade Arafat to yield to the peace drive and to accept the government's call for all militias to put down their arms and join the government in trying to pacify the country.



An old armed pro-Iranian Hezbollah militant guards the funeral of his comrade, who died in battles against pro-Syrian Amal militia in south Lebanon. (Reuter wirephoto)

Cairo daily attacks PLO as rift grows

CAIRO, July 28, (Reuter): An Egyptian newspaper today made a fresh attack on PLO leaders, their rift with Cairo apparently complete after President Hosni Mubarak abandoned efforts to mediate between them and Washington.

"We tell them (PLO) you have to search — by yourselves — for a solution to the problem with the United States," Egyptian editors quoted Mubarak as saying on his lightning peace trip to Iraq, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia on Tuesday.

An Arab diplomat saw Mubarak's remarks as a signal to PLO leader Yasser Arafat that Cairo was washing its hands of the group, at least for the time being.

President George Bush suspended the 18-month-old US dialogue with the Palestine Liberation Organisation on June 20 after it failed to condemn a sea attack on Israel.

Diplomats say Cairo's differences with the PLO had grown from that date. They flared this month after what Egyptian newspapers called critical remarks by Arafat at an Arab League meeting in Tunis.

The evening newspaper Al Messa said today:

"Responsibility forces us to make clear to (PLO leaders) their true size when they make false accusations against us so that they do not forget themselves."

Messa also criticised Arafat for what it called secret contacts with Jewish leaders and for writing to Menachem Rosensaft, the president of the US Labour Zionist alliance.

"This happens — secretly — while Yasser Arafat accuses Egypt publicly — that it is pressuring him to accept America's demands to resume the dialogue," it added.

Cairo severed ties with the PLO in April 1987 after being strongly criticised by the Palestine National Council, the Palestinian parliament-in-exile.

But for more than two years Egypt and PLO have been co-ordinating policies in an attempt to get Palestinians and Israelis to meet in Cairo to discuss peace.

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"We've seen those reports and we will be taking up the subject with the government of Israel," the State Department said in a terse written statement.

The department press office said it was unable to elaborate further.

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Aoun called for change in Taif agreement

BEIRUT, July 28, (UPI): Defiant Christian Gen. Michel Aoun yesterday demanded changes on an internationally backed peace accord as pro-Syrian Prime Minister Selim Hoss warned to take measures aimed at forcing the commandant of 15,000 troops to relinquish powers.

The 54-year-old officer made his stand after holding four closed-door sessions with special Arab League envoy, Lakhdar Brahimi, who efforts to persuade the general to accept the so-called Taif accord unconditionally.

Lebanon's parliament worked out a peace agreement to end the 15-year-old civil war in the Saudi resort of Taif Oct 23, meeting the Muslims' long-standing demand — a greater share in power.

"I am for the Taif accord ... but there are some contradictions in the agreement, and I asked Mr Brahimi to exert some efforts to correct these contradictions," Aoun said during a news conference at the presidential palace in the suburban district of Baabda southeast of Beirut.

A well-connected political source said Aoun told Brahimi that "the fact there have been no parliamentary elections for a long time contradicts a term in the Taif accord that says the nation is the source of powers."

Aoun was appointed as head of a transitional government by former president Amine Gemayel whose 6-year mandate ended in September 1988, seeking to avoid a leadership vacuum after the parliament failed to choose a successor.

Meanwhile, the Lebanese government held an emergency session today to decide on how to penalise Amal for sabotaging UN League-sponsored peace talks in Lebanon.

Backed by Syria and the League, the government of Salim Al Hoss will adopt a set of measures intended to defend the "last chance of peace," political sources told Kuna.

The plan had been relayed to Arafat by Al Ibrahim who was turned down by Arafat as a peace broker.

Aoun has insisted that Al Ibrahim was only trying to market the Taif accord which the General continues to reject.

In a surprise visit to Damascus Thursday, Lebanese President Elias Hirwani was given assurances that Damascus will throw its weight behind the Lebanese government's move to restructure the economy.

Pope John Paul II last night launched the Vatican's latest effort to persuade Arafat to yield to the peace drive and to accept the government's call for all militias to put down their arms and join the government in trying to pacify the country.

He also gave a detailed account of recent incidents between Israeli troops trying to build a road in the eastern part of the Unifil zone and Norwegian UN soldiers attempting to block them. The Norwegian battalion sector is entirely within the Israeli-controlled area.

A Norwegian officer was injured on Monday when an Israeli bulldozer pushed aside three UN armoured per-

sonnel carriers placed in its path. A UN bulldozer was then placed in front of the Israeli bulldozer but was withdrawn after an Israeli tank threatened to fire at it, the report said.

Perez de Cuellar said prospects for keeping the area peaceful would greatly improve if Israeli forces did not operate in it. But if they insisted on doing so, it might be necessary for the Security Council to consider whether Unifil's role in that area should be changed.

The Council is due to meet next Tues-

day to renew the mandate of Unifil, comprising 5,842 troops from nine countries

Fiji, Finland, France, Ghana, Ireland, Italy, Nepal, Norway and Sweden.

The force was set up in 1978 to oversee the withdrawal of Israeli forces who invaded southern Lebanon earlier that year and to help restore the authority of the Beirut government.

The UN area partly overlaps a so-called "security zone" manned by Israel and the SLA since 1985, when most of the Israeli troops who again invaded Lebanon in 1982 withdrew.

Noting Israel was continuing to build

up the SLA and to improve its own

ability to reinforce Israeli troops quickly

inside Lebanon, he said:

"A consequence of this policy is that the Israeli-controlled area is becoming increasingly separated from the rest of Lebanon."

presence in south Lebanon a temporary arrangement as long as the Beirut government was unable to exercise effective authority and prevent its territory from being used to launch attacks against northern Israel.

The committee, in its two-day deliberations, will discuss achievements in economy, trade, culture and media co-operation between their joint establishments.

They will also discuss Arab problems and co-ordination of their stances towards these issues.

Sedki met with Jordanian monarch King Hussein and handed him a message from Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak dealing with current Arab situation and bilateral relations, an official report said.

MIDEAST BRIEFS

Kurdish clashes: A total of 23 people were killed in two overnight clashes between troops and Kurdish separatists in southeast Turkey. Anatolian News Agency said today.

EVENTS**Meet a neighbour**

Yuko Shimmura

A traditionalist at heartBy Lima Al Khalafawi
Arab Times staff

SOFT-SPOKEN Japanese housewife Yuko Shimmura feels at home in the Arab world. A linguist, she mastered Arabic during her stay in Cairo with her diplomat husband Izuru Shimmura.

Shimmura, who has completed his term of duty in Kuwait, will be leaving with his wife later next month.

During her stay in Kuwait, Yuko occupied herself by taking more Arabic lessons to brush up her knowledge. "Learning foreign languages opens communications with other people," she said.

Determined not to be left behind in her quest of learning about people, Yuko who has a bachelor's degree in linguistics, studied Arabic during her husband's first sojourn in the Arab world. After that, it was a matter of time before she picked up classical Arabic. She spoke to me in fluent Arabic, talking about the days she spent in Cairo and Kuwait.

Memories of Cairo are a series of flashbacks to the metropolis — the heat, crowds, pyramids, shopping sprees, friends and the happy moments she spent exploring the country. She was particularly impressed by Luxor, where she spent hours exploring the history of Egypt, admiring the tombs of kings and the wealth they had stored.

Yuko's first introduction to classical Arabic was at the International Language Institute in Cairo. Although she struggled to master the intricacies of Arabic grammar, she admits her native language is much more difficult for foreigners.

When she is not brushing up her command of

Arabic, Yuko spends her time playing the piano, practising Chopin and Beethoven. And when the musical interlude tires her, she takes up handicrafts. Her home is decorated with beautiful pieces of handicrafts, ranging from appliques to summery flower arrangements.

When she returns to Tokyo, she hopes to learn more about ikebana to keep alive the tradition of flower arrangements. She feels that the younger generation must absorb and extend such traditions.

Petite and feminine Yuko represents the modern Japanese woman: educated and Westernised. But at heart, she remains a traditionalist who is making the best of both the Oriental and Western cultures.

"Exposure to Western lifestyle has given me a better understanding of my own culture," she said. Japanese traditions are an intrinsic part of her life.

Fiercely independent, she is certainly not an archetypal submissive housewife and voices her strong opinions about the freedom and equality of the sexes. She believes in women's rights and independence.

Her travels have taken her to 16 countries from her native Sapporo City in Japan to the Pacific Ocean, including the Arab world.

Exposure to "exotic Arab culture was a once in a lifetime opportunity for Yuko who will cherish the memories of the warm, sunny days she spent in Cairo and Kuwait.

Although she was often homesick and missed her family, who live in Sapporo where the 1972 Olympic Winter Games were held, she made a bond with new friends she acquired in Kuwait.

As she and her husband say farewell to Kuwait, she takes back memories of several people who opened up a new world for her.



Yuko Shimmura clad in a beautiful kimono.

Scrabble
Johnny and Rene on top

THE second and penultimate round of the preliminary stage of the ongoing All Filipino Tournament organised by the Filipino Chess Club in Kuwait (FILCHECK) was held on July 27, at the Kabeer Restaurant.

Johnny Diamante and Rene Castillo, who both earned three points in the first round, maintained their lead by outscoring their opponents to clinch the top positions in Group A & B, respectively, with a total of 6 points each.

Playing at Table 3, Diamante was unstoppable after successfully placing all his seven tiles on his second turn with the word "untangle" which earned him 68 points, the highest individual score for this round. Despite attempts of early top contender Rony Arellano to parity his breaks, Lady Luck was on Diamante's side who drew most of the high-valued letters.

All tables in Group A played with one player less after first round leader Rene Mostrales (who dropped to 8th slot), Susan Habos, Delia Degala and Carol Magasambol defaulted their games. As per tournament rules, defaulting time is 15 minutes from the official starting time.

In Group B Table 4, Zosi Tortosa made a phenomenal jump from number eight to second position after gaining additional scores at the end game and edged away Lani Salvado who dropped out of the game from the start.

On Table 1, with his opponents invariably losing their turns for one reason or another, Sammy Arellano won his "pardon" batch with a win (3 points) to break away from number twelve to number sixth slot while Diony Bartolome managed to earn two points to rise from seventh to fifth position.

Group B first-round leader Dolly Alojado suffered a setback with only a 1 point win behind Lhen Bantayan and Gil Flores at Table 3. Obviously, Dolly who was noted to be recuperating from a recent illness, couldn't contain the early lead posed by Lhen.

The final games of this preliminary round will be played on Friday, August 3 with Group A starting at 1.30 pm and Group B at 2.30 pm. The top 8 players in both groups will advance to the championship round to play another single round robin.

The champion and its three runners-up will each receive a trophy donated by Al Naseem Freight Forwarders and valuable gift items courtesy of Shaab Corporation.

Standing GROUP A		Score	Points
1.	Player Johnny Diamante	444	6
2.	Lacy Ortiz	470	5
3.	Rene Castillo	435	5
4.	Silver Salvado	429	5
5.	Ted Manlangit	336	5
6.	Danny Gonzales	348	4
7.	Rene Mostrales	341	3
8.	Lory Joven	279	3
9.	Lani Salvado	218	3
10.	Jenny de la Cruz	202	3
11.	Susan Habos	117	2
12.	Simple Belmonte	185	1
13.	Babes Penaloza	179	1
14.	Delia Degala	77	1
15.	Joe de la Pena	72	0
16.	Carol Magasambol	18	0

GROUP B		Score	Points
1.	Rene Castillo	313	6
2.	Sosi Tortosa	296	5
3.	Danny Calasin	290	5
4.	Dolly Alojado	290	4
5.	Diony Bartolome	276	4
6.	Sammy Arellano	276	4
7.	Marlon de la Cruz	255	4
8.	Lani Salvado	289	3
9.	Edwin Borgias	277	3
10.	Lhen Bantayan	253	3
11.	Gil Flores	242	2
12.	Lourdes Vidal	226	2
13.	Myrna Calibuso	220	1
14.	Julian Flores	215	1
15.	Felix Sillo	210	1
16.	Jun Pacana	148	0

SCHEDULE OF GAMES: Third Round — Friday, August 3, 1990
Table Group A (1.30 pm)
1 Silver, Lacy, Delia 2 Edwin, Marlon, Dolly, Zosi
3 Simple, Jody, Joe, Carol 4 Danny, Diony, Myrna, Julian
5 Ted, Rony, Rene, Susan 6 Gil, Lani, Sammy, Rene
7 Johnny, Babes, Al, Lacy 8 Felix, Lhen, Lourdes, Jun

**Filipino fashion in Kuwait**

Traditionally, Philippine linens have been known for their rustic and simple quality in cut out and embroidered work. While some products remain simple, others have branched out into new fashion designs and colours which have won a world-wide reputation.

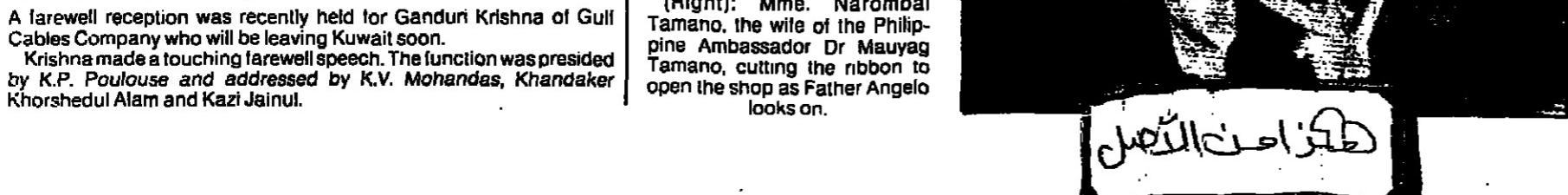
In Kuwait, the Filipino business circle recently got its newest fashion member: SM Fashion Wear. The shop is owned and managed by Steve Tamayo and has a wide variety of men and ladies clothes, shoes and bags.

SM Fashion Wear is located at Souk Al Kuwait at the basement of Al Ghail building, Fird Al Salem Street, Kuwait City.

(Right): Mme. Naromai Tamano, the wife of the Philippine Ambassador Dr. Mauyag Tamano, cutting the ribbon to open the shop as Father Angelo looks on.

Farewell function

A farewell reception was recently held for Ganduri Krishna of Gulf Cables Company who will be leaving Kuwait soon. Krishna made a touching farewell speech. The function was presided by K.P. Poulose and addressed by K.V. Mohandas, Khandaker Khorshedul Alam and Kazi Jainul.



ARAB TIMES, SUNDAY, JULY 29, 1990

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES**KTV 1**

- 9.00 Holy Quran
- 9.15 Cartoon serial
- 9.40 Iftah Ya Simsim
- 10.10 Good Morning
- 10.30 Al Bakheel Wa Ana: Arabic serial
- 11.15 Sabah Al Khair
- 12.00 Al Ma'sara: Arabic serial, starring Jamil Awad, Juliet Awad, Dawood Jalajjal ...
- 1.00 Songs
- 1.30 Al Sanafer: cartoon serial
- 2.00 The News
- 2.30 Ibn Aqil: Gulf serial. Starring Ahlam Mohammad, Ibrahim Al Bunki
- 3.45 Al Leylan Wa Leylah
- 4.00 Firefire: English feature film
- 5.30 Adventures: cartoon serial
- 6.00 Songs and Music
- 6.30 Kaan Ya Ma Kaan: Children's serial
- 7.30 Khidmat Al Janmoor: documentary presented by Yacoub Al Yousef
- 8.00 Diwaniyat Shuara Al Nabt
- 9.45 Al Zaera: daily Arabic serial, starring Samiya Ayoub, Selah Qabil, Shireen, Abiah Kamel.
- 10.45 Songs
- 11.00 Makhlook Ismaha Al Mar'aa (A Creation Named Woman). "Al Talebah." Starring Farouk Fishawi, Shabira, Tahya Karoka.
- 12.25 News Summary
- 12.30 World News via Satellite
- 12.45 Holy Quran/Closedown



Queenie, KTV 2: 10:30

KTV 2

- 6.00 Holy Quran
- 6.10 Macron I: cartoon series
- 6.30 The Beachcombers: "Not Just Another Pretty ..." When John fails to arrest the cyclist, he is advised to dress up in the same manner. Adventure.
- 7.00 The Natural World: "The Living Jewel of Kalahari." A closer look at the Okavango desert and how its inhabitants fight for survival. Cultural.
- 8.00 News in English
- 8.30 Made in Kuwait: A

local programme about the industrial development in Kuwait.

9.00 E.N.G.: "The Chilling Effect." An old friend of Ann's informs her about a secret project involving biological weapons. Adventure.

10.00 Lenny Henry Show: A comedy of short scenes with songs and dances.

10.30 Bestseller: "Queenie, Part II." Queenie returns to India to act in a film. She is then under the danger of being arrested. News in brief.

12.00 Magazine D'actualite: Closedown

WHAT'S ON**Social****Summer Bazaar**

Aug. 3: The Ladies Friendship Association's Big Summer Bazaar will be held in the Exhibition Hall at Kuwait Regency Palace Hotel from 9 am to 9 pm. Gift items, home products, handicrafts, toys, clothes and much more. Raffle with attractive prizes. Surprise for children. All are welcome. For details call Manal 574-9179.

Approb 'Who's Who' directory: THE Association of Pakistani Professionals and Businessmen (Approb) is planning to publish a "Who's Who" directory of prominent Pakistani professionals and businessmen resident in Kuwait by January 1991. The directory aims at providing information about all Pakistanis proficient and distinguished in their professions and businesses.

Data forms are available free of cost from Approb executive board members and other locations. For further details contact Approb on Tel. No. 2425315, Fax 5323751, P.O. Box 2351, Salmiya, 22024 Salmiya, Kuwait.

A copy of the directory will be given free of charge to all individuals whose names will appear in the directory.

July 30: 10 am to 12 noon.

LIL will hold a newcomer's coffee morning on Monday at the Sheraton Hotel, Mezzanine floor. Ladies new to LIL or Kuwait are welcome. For details contact Janet 2434941.

Summerbelles '90

Aug. 2: United Goans Centre will hold Summerbelles '90 at the SAS Hotel's The Tent. Top Rankers and Hurricane Alley in attendance. For reservations call Tony, 2612024; Cyril, 2523920; Joe, 5655140.

Filipino expatriates survey

The office of the welfare officer of the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration is launching an initial information campaign to conduct a survey of Filipino workers in Kuwait.

This will cover statistical data on the number of Filipino workers employed in the private companies and government institutions. It will also include such information as job classifications, tenure of con-

At the Plaza:

Al Dhalah Coffee Shop: international cuisine; open buffet plus menu.

Lolowah Corner: snacks and refreshments summer drinks.

Marco Polo: Italian ambience and cuisine, particularly pasta.

Al Salem Hotel:

Al Bendar Coffee Shop: international cuisine, breakfast, lunch and dinner; à la carte and à la carte buffets.

Marco Polo: Italian ambience and cuisine, particularly pasta.

Al Mawardi Garden Cafe: Snacks, pastries and beverages (6 pm to midnight)

Al Mersa: On board, international à la carte cuisine lunch and dinner, closed on Fridays.

Friday Brunch: Ship discovery tour, entertainment for children and cartoon characters to amuse.

At the SAS

Bistro: Sunday/Wednesday pasta night; Italian music.

Peacock Room: Chinese cuisine; lunch and dinner.

Al Boom: Kuwaiti experience; charcoal grilled food, plus mezze buffet.

Clock snack bar — burgers, french fries, etc.

At the International

Faileka: situated on the 19th floor, overlooking the coastline, it offers international cuisine; live entertainment in the evenings. Closed on Fridays.

La Palma: offers buffet as well as à la carte. Family style brunch on Fridays.

Ket: offers Japanese dining in an oriental atmosphere.

La Patisserie: selection of snacks; pianist in the evenings.

Al Waha: ice cream promotion featuring different flavours, until August 1990.

CINEMA TODAY

- Al Andulus
Tah Al Sif (Arabic)<br

BUSINESS & FINANCE



Opec ministers pose together July 27. From left are: Jibril Aminu of Nigeria; Al Chalabi of Iraq; Abdul Aziz Bin Khalifa Al Thani of Qatar; Aqazadeh of Iran; Naser of Saudi Arabia and Ginanjar Kartasamita of Indonesia.



Opec president Sadek Boussena (left) and Subroto face reporters at the end of the Opec conference July 27. (Reuter wirephoto)



Boussena (left) huddles with Al Oteiba of the UAE (second from left), Al Chalabi and Subroto. (Reuter wirephoto)

UAE expects higher oil quotas

'Present share falls short of what the nation deserves'

ABU DHABI, July 28. (Reuter): The United Arab Emirates (UAE), castigated by Iraq and other Opec hawks for glutting the oil market, has welcomed the group's accord but says it still deserves a higher output quota.

It accepted a 1.5 million barrels per day (bpd) quota as part of a pact to raise the largest price to \$21 per barrel from 18 and total output to 22.491 million from 22.086.

"The new quota does not respond to the UAE's ambitions regarding oil potentials and untapped energy," Oil Minister Mana Said Al Oteiba told Abu Dhabi television in Geneva yesterday.

"But it came in circumstances when each member had to sacrifice to reach a price of \$21."

Oteiba put his country's crude reserves at 116 billion barrels. He said he expected the UAE and other Arab countries to have higher quotas in the future.

"The near-future carries positive aspects which will allow the UAE and other Arab producers with large reserves to increase their quotas," he told the television.

Oteiba did not elaborate but was apparently referring to an expected surge in world demand over the next decade.

If all 13 Opec members stick to quotas, yesterday's agreement is expected to mop up around 800,000 bpd and push oil prices, now around \$17 per barrel, to the target by year-end.

The UAE rejected its allocation of 1.095 million bpd under last November's Opec pact as too little.

Abu Dhabi's semi-official Al Ittihad newspaper today backed Oteiba's view that the new 1.5-million bpd quota "falls short of what the UAE deserves." But it said the agreement would strengthen the organisation.

In Geneva, Iraqi Oil Minister Issam Al Chalabi yesterday described as "historic" Opec's agreement today on increasing its benchmark price to \$21 per barrel, setting its production ceiling at 22.491 million barrels per day and fixing quotas.

Al Chalabi was quoted by the Iraqi News Agency as saying that the Opec agreement "has restored Opec's unity and guaranteed the legitimacy and just rights for all member states in the organisation."

Opec Secretary-General Subroto said Western countries need not fear that the group would drive oil prices too high.

"I must say that there need not be fear in Western countries that we will drive oil prices too high," the former Indonesian oil minister told Nigerian journalists.

He was asked if an Opec agreement in Geneva today to raise the group's minimum reference price from \$18 to \$21 did not indicate it was poised to again raise prices as it did in the mid-1970s.

"Although we are in position to get higher market share we will not misuse the opportunity by pushing prices too high because it won't benefit anyone," Subroto said.

Subroto added that \$21 was not too high. "Right now in nominal terms prices should be \$22.70," he said.

Some key Opec ministers including Saudi Arabia's Hisham Nazer said they expect oil prices to reach \$21 by year-end.

Subroto said that between now and December he would tour consumer nations to assure them Opec's aim was not just to achieve higher oil revenue but also market stability.

Oil markets suffered an emotional letdown after the Opec group actually signed a new production-limiting agreement yesterday that drove prices down as traders took profits on increases leading up to the accord.

The benchmark West Texas Intermediate crude for September delivery fell 26 cents on the day to \$20.04 a barrel in trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange, the world's largest oil exchange.

Sun Co., Radnor, Pa., and Marathon Oil Co., the Findlay, Ohio, unit of USX Corp., also dropped the posted price they will pay for crude at the wellhead by 50 cents a barrel to \$18.75 a barrel for WTI.

Oman expects oil prices to improve

NICOSIA, July 28. (Reuter): World oil prices are expected to improve and stabilise following Opec's latest Geneva accord, Oman Petroleum and Minerals Minister Said Bin Ahmed Al Shanfari said today.

Urging other non-Opec producers to co-operate with the organisation, Shanfari said: "This accord will help gradually get rid of the oil glut in the world."

Thus, world oil prices are expected to improve and stabilise, the Oman news agency, monitored in Nicosia, quoted Shanfari as saying.

He said the agreement reached yesterday raising the target price to \$21 per barrel from 18 and total output to 22.491 million barrels from 22.086, "serves the interests of producers and consumers alike."

"The Omani government reaffirms its continued support for all efforts to stabilise the oil markets and urges non-Opec producers to co-operate with the organisation in the interest of producers and consumers," he added.

A senior Omani oil official said earlier this month Oman had shelved plans to raise oil output by 50,000 barrels per day (bpd) to 700,000 to support Opec's efforts to boost prices.

Opec enters new era

Oil price raised after 10 years

GENEVA, July 28. (Reuter): Opec is back in the business of raising oil prices. For the first time in 10 years yesterday the 13-nation cartel raised its official price from \$18 per barrel to \$21.

New output quotas were mandated to check excess supply and take up to 800,000 barrels daily off the market, erase the latest glut and drive spot market prices up to the new goal.

Delegates said Opec acted under pressure from Iraq, — until lately the most eloquent advocate of a user-friendly Opec policy of generous supply at low prices.

"We have the conviction we are entering a new era where we improve the price progressively," said Sadek Boussena of Algeria, president of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries.

In Tehran, Iranian President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani said the price should be moved up to \$30.

He said the Soviet Union, the biggest oil producer although not a member of Opec, should help throttle supply so prices soar.

"Let the Soviets co-operate with a few Opec countries. We are ready. So are the Iraqis, Libyans and Algerians..."

Rafsanjani said that if these exporters—Opec pricing "hawks" in the 1970s—stopped selling for a month, the world would have to pay up or shut down.

Traditional moderates led by Venezuela resisted an Iraqi bid at the Opec conference, which ended on Friday, to target a minimum reference price as high as \$25.

They worried that the United States and other consumers might adopt energy-saving policies if Opec revived its old image as a greedy cartel at the mercy of Middle East politics.

"There is no need for fear in the Western world that we will drive prices too high," Opec secretary-general Subroto of Indonesia told reporters.

Saudi Arabian oil minister Hisham Nazer said Opec did not want prices so high as to "shift demand to alternative energy."

He said the Opec deal arose from "a very bad

situation," apparently a reference to how weak prices hurt the economies of many poorer, debt-laden Third World oil sellers.

Others include Iraq, Libya, Western Egypt with its economy ravaged by the 1980-88 Gulf War against fellow Opec founder member Iran.

(Opec was founded 30 years ago on Sept 14 in Baghdad).

Chalabi said he was "very happy" with the increase to \$21 a barrel and with a deal that provides for stricter, regular ministerial policing of quota compliance.

Among the Gulf states, the United Arab Emirates, which had simply produced what it pleased, is returned to a quota.

Both Kuwait and the UAE pledged quotas of 1.5 million barrels daily.

"Raising the Opec price to \$21 is a major development. They seem to have become more aggressive about their price ideas," said Michael Rothman, a vice-president at the international banking and finance company, Merrill Lynch.

Opec quadrupled oil prices in 1973 when an Arab oil embargo against the West created shortages. Oil company panic-buying led by the Japanese, frightened by the Iranian revolution, created a second oil price shock in 1980.

Cartel ministers in December of that year fixed a "deemed marker" or top benchmark at \$36 per barrel.

The sky-high prices forced the West to find alternative energy sources and caused the first of a series of gluts.

Demand is now rebounding to peaks of a decade ago. More than half the oil burned in the United States is imported.

Oman said last May its proven oil reserves had more than doubled to 4.3 billion barrels from two billion in 1979.

The sultanate is a de-facto leader of the seven-member Independent Petroleum Exporting Countries (Ipec) group, also known as non-Opec, which includes Mexico, Angola, the Soviet Union, Malaysia, China and Egypt.

The group agreed to cut exports by five per cent in the second quarter of 1989.

He said the Opec deal arose from "a very bad

Redundancy hitting financial markets

Paris brokers nervous

PARIS, July 28. (Reuter): Big layoffs have hit finance houses in London and New York in recent years and now many industry experts fear Paris may be next.

"The spectre of redundancy is starting to haunt the Paris financial markets," said one broker.

The high cost of introducing new technology and failing revenue after the abolition of fixed commissions last year have helped to make France's money men nervous.

he had that day met Regis Rouselle, chairman of the Societe des Bourses Francaises (SBF) bourgeoisie executive body, to discuss general problems.

Although Meunier said the problems were not as serious as those experienced by some of the company's rivals, sources at the brokerage said daily business had fallen to between a fifth and tenth of levels enjoyed in the past.

They said the brokers, which had 90 million francs (\$16.5 million) of turnover in 1988, saw losses of seven to eight million francs (\$1.3-1.5 million) in the first half of 1990 and layoffs of the 100 or so staff were general.

Meunier told Reuters he was no means the only brokerage executive to visit Rouselle recently in search of reassurance, but he said the situation was not yet serious enough for the SBF to recommend the companies concerned file for bankruptcy.

On July 27, the chairman of Meechaert-Rouselle, one of France's largest brokers, said the company expected to be in deficit in the first six months of this year after losing 78.5 million francs (\$14 million) in 1989.

Chairman Gerard de la Martiniere told Reuters it was too early to say whether the brokerage, which has already cut its staff from 334 in January 1989 to 190 now, would be laying off more employees.

The comments by Meunier and de la Martiniere merely served to reinforce analysts' convictions that last year's abolition of fixed commissions and the high cost of introducing the computerised settlements and deliveries system, Reit, was starting to have a serious financial impact.

Tuffier, which estimates it needs 200 million francs (\$36.8 million) to stay in business, is the seventh Paris brokerage to hit trouble since 1988.

"As competition intensifies, Tuffier will surely not be the last to go to the wall," brokerage Fauchier-Magnan-Durant des Autinois said.

Business briefs

Ferruzzi restructuring: Italy's Gruppo Ferruzzi on Friday announced plans to merge its chemicals firm Montedison Spa with its agribusiness holding in a major corporate restructuring.

The group headed by industrialist Raul Gardini said Montedison will merge with Ferruzzi Agricola Finanziaria Spa, the holding company which oversees the group's agribusiness sector. The merger will be done through a share exchange.

"The objective of the merger operation is to create a big industrial holding with turnover of 35 billion lire (\$30 billion), a redesigned global company to confront the challenges of the 1990s," Gardini told a news conference.

The newly merged company, which will retain the name of Montedison, will oversee such subsidiaries as sugar groups Eridania Spa and Italy and Beghin-Say of France.

"The combination within the same group of the activities of a large chemicals group, such as Montedison, and those of a large agri-industrial group such as Eridania/Beghin-Say, will provide the opportunity to implement a very innovative industrial plan," Ferruzzi said in a statement. (Reuter)

UK economy in decline: The £408 million (\$738.5 million) pre-tax profit announced by Lloyds Bank for the first half of 1990 was below expectations and showed the British economy is in decline, experts said Friday.

Analysts said they expected similar disappointments from the other major clearing banks, which are scheduled to release results next week.

They said the markets had been expecting Lloyds to declare about £460 million (\$832.6 million) and attributed the lower figure—caused by falling levels of borrowing and increased defaults on loans—on Britain's 15 per cent interest rates.

"The figures show a decline for the economy in that they show a high degree of default in corporate borrowing," said Chris Ellerton, banking analyst for Warburg Securities. (UPI)

SBI joint venture: S.B. International Limited (SBL) was formally inaugurated on July 6, 1990 by Mr S. Lutchmeenaraidoo, Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister of Mauritius.

SBL is an offshore bank incorporated jointly by SBI, State Commercial Bank Limited (SCB), Mauritius, and State Investment Corporation of Mauritius.

SBL is expected to benefit from the strength and international banking expertise of SBI and the position occupied by the SCB in the Mauritian economy. Being an offshore bank SBL will engage itself in important financial activities such as trade finance, forex and money market operations, foreign currency loans etc.

Kuwaiti market inactive: The Kuwaiti dinar interbank deposit market was quiet on Saturday, as European banks were closed for their two-day weekend, dealers said.

Little business was seen in either short dates or fixed dates, and rates were largely unchanged, they added.

The Central Bank fixed the dinar at 0.28867/77 to the dollar. (Reuter)

Saudi market quiet: Little activity was seen on a quiet, featureless Saudi riyal interbank deposit market, as European banks closed for the Saturday/Sunday weekend, dealers said.

Some banks were reporting no business at all, and rates were basically unchanged, they said. One month was quoted at 7-11/16-7-9/16 per cent, three months at 7-13/16-7-11/16, six months at 7-7/8-3-1/4, and one year at 7-15/16-7-13/16.

The spot riyal was being quoted at 3.7503/6 to the dollar. (Reuter)

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Week in Business

US economy 'gasping for air', moving close to a recession

NEW YORK, July 28. (UPI): A week only bond investors could have ended yesterday with the government's announcement that US economic growth was a mere 1.2 per cent in the second quarter, down from 1.7 per cent in the first quarter. It was the most persuasive evidence to date that the United States is moving dangerously close to a recession, which is defined by economic textbooks as the straight quarters of economic contraction.

The American economy is 'gasping for air,' commented Chicago economist Robert Dederick of Northern Trust Bank. That view seems increasingly held by analysts who had hoped recession might be skirted by a wider margin.

On Wednesday the government said durable

goods orders dropped 3.2 per cent in June after rising 4.2 per cent in May. That indicated the key manufacturing sector, despite a few bright spots, remains in the doldrums.

Only the bond market could be happy at week's end. Treasury bonds appreciate in value in times of economic distress, so news that the country had moved closer to recession pushed up prices. But the dollar, already on a slide, was hammered by the German mark and other units.

To some extent the economy remained a hostage of bipartisan budget talks in Washington. The Bush administration and the democratically controlled Congress were sitting down together to try to trim

\$50 billion from the federal budget deficit for the fiscal year starting Oct. 1.

Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan has indicated that a substantial cut in the deficit could be rewarded by reduced short-term rates, which the administration has been demanding as a tonic for the economy.

The GNP announcement was a fitting end for a week that began on the New York Stock Exchange with a 105-point intraday plunge by the Dow Jones average of 30 industrial stocks. The Dow recovered to end trading 36.44 points down to stand at 2904.70.

A few days before, stock market players had tried to shove the closing Dow over the psychological

significant 3,000 barrier. But Monday's market break suggested that the rally was artificial, based on a few supercharged stocks and possibly the market's way of dispelling the growing economic gloom.

The market tried to bounce back from the slide, triggered by disappointing corporate earnings, but fell off again to end the week just below the 2900 mark, at 2893.51.

The brief midweek recovery was led by oil company shares, surging on tensions between Gulf states Iraq and Kuwait, against the backdrop of a summit of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries. Opec ministers agreed in Geneva to

increase their collective production ceiling — but adhere to it — and raise the oil group's target price by \$3 to \$21 a barrel.

More poor corporate earnings were reported. General Motors Corp and Ford Motor Co said their quarterly profits were off, respectively, by 38 per cent and 45 per cent. GM blamed its depressed earnings on heavy discounting of autos in its core North American market, as well as by the disruption of Brazilian operation by that country's economic turmoil.

Ford profits were hit by an overseas earnings decline of 78 per cent coming on top of a North American falloff of 22 per cent. Ford executives cited big labour problems in Europe — its Belgian

operation was struck — and the impact of the new Brazilian government's crash economic austerity plan.

Digital Equipment Corp, the second-largest US computer company, also had problems. It posted its first loss in 32 years of operation after taking \$400 million charges to cover employee severance costs. Digital posted a loss of \$256.7 million in the June quarter, against profits of \$313.2 million in the same period a year earlier.

There was bad news as well as debt-loaded food and tobacco giant R.J.R. Nabisco, which lost \$108 million in the quarter. But the company had higher operating profits and cash flow, so analysts expected better results ahead.



Some of the last 2CVs parked in the lot of a French auto dealer July 27. (Reuter wirephoto)

Adieu to Citroen

Last car rolls out in Portugal

LISBON, Portugal, July 28. (AP): It was a quiet adieu to an automotive legend yesterday when the last Citroen Deux Chevaux — France's funny-looking four-wheeled friend to millions — rolled off the factory line in Portugal after 42 years in production.

There were no public ceremonies yesterday afternoon at the Mangualde factory 370 kms (220 miles) northeast of Lisbon, where production was moved two years ago after Citroen closed its Levallois assembly line near Paris.

"Just a little get-together for the workers who have been making them," said Citroen Lusitania spokesman Teixeira de Abreu in a telephone interview.

But Citroen fans world-wide will mourn the demise of the turtle-shaped Deux Chevaux named literally for the "Two Horses," or old-type horsepower produced by its chugging air-cooled engine.

Officially designated the 2CV, the car with open-flap side-windows, mattress-like suspension and scrawny tires, has sold over 3.86 million since its launch at the 1948 Paris auto show for the princely sum of 22,800 francs (about \$650 at the time).

Including a van, more comfortable Ami and Dyane versions, and even a four-wheel drive derivative, more than 7 million Deux Chevaux have hit the roads and thousands of fans have set up about 300 owners clubs worldwide.

The car has starred in James Bond films and has been flown hanging from a hot air balloon. It has set world altitude and depth records for a car — climb-

ing to 17,180 feet (5,239 metres) on Bolivia's mount Chacaltaya in 1953 and going down a salt mine in France's Lorraine region.

Two Frenchmen, Jacques Seguela and Jean-Claude Baudot made an 87,000-mile (140,000-kms) round the world trip in a 2CV, once resorting to crushed bananas to lubricate a broken gearbox while crossing a South American desert.

Citroen's hi-tech AX Compact will substitute the 2CV at the Mangualde plant. But, according to Gavin Green, chief editor of Britain's car magazine, "No car will replace it — there's no successor in sight. It's the end of an era."

He says most owners have an emotional relationship with their 2CV that, like the Volkswagen Beetle and the Mini, has become a motoring legend.

"It's different but sensible," said two-time Deux Chevaux owner Green, "and for an old car it's still quite advanced — it has direct ignition, independent suspension and inboard brakes ... things that some sports car makers are still making a song and dance about."

In 1935, Citroen boss Pierre-Jules Boulanger asked his designers to dream up a small, avant-garde car for all classes or folk that would be like "a four-wheeled sofa covered by an umbrella."

It should have enough headroom for an opera-bound gent wearing a top hat, but also be supple enough to transport at two peasants with a basket of eggs across a ploughed field without smashing the fragile cargo. All that without using more than three litres (0.78 gallon) of fuel for 100 kms (60 miles).

Reebok chief to get pay cut

Chrysler-Fiat deal in the offing: report

STOUGHTON, Massachusetts, July 28. (AP): The man who amassed great wealth by overseeing Reebok's rapid growth from a small shoe company into a trend-setting athletic apparel giant will take a pay cut of more than \$11 million next year.

But Paul Fireman still will be able to afford expensive footwear like Reebok's \$170 sneaker. "The pump" in his new deal with the company could net him \$22 million a year in salary and bonuses.

The company announced Thursday that a five-year deal would pay Fireman, its 46-year-old chairman and chief executive officer, \$1 million a year in salary and the potential for another \$1 million in annual bonuses based on the company's profits.

His current agreement, which expires Dec. 31, brought Fireman an average of about \$13.6 million annually for the past four years. More than 95 percent of that was in bonuses based on the company's pre-tax earnings, the rest in salary.

Chrysler noted that the key questions surrounding any Chrysler-Fiat deal concern how broad a working relationship the two companies

would have. It said while it is possible that Fiat could eventually take an equity position in Chrysler, a joint marketing venture is more likely at first.

Under a joint marketing agreement, the report said, Fiat could agree to distribute Chrysler's popular mini-vans and jeeps in Europe. Chrysler may also desire that Fiat contribute to the development of a compact jeep, code name "J1," although the No. 3 US automaker has indicated it would go it alone if necessary.

The FNN report pointed out that Chrysler and Fiat have been intermittently talking about a deal for the last four years, and cautioned that while a deal between the companies seems imminent, it could always fall through at the last minute.

Chrysler Motors president Robert Lutz confirmed last week Chrysler is actively talking about a wide variety of ventures with Fiat.

Weekly Wall Street

Today's pains hold out promise of future gains

NEW YORK, July 28. (AP): With all the problems posed by a squeeze on credit, some Wall Streets analysts still believe the US economy can withstand the pressure without much widespread, long-term damage.

Indeed, they contend, the pain occurring now for the banking business and its customers holds out the promise of future gains in stability and the potential for growth.

If lenders cut back, many worry that a credit shortfall might stop the economy in its tracks, says Maureen Allyn, chief economist at the New York investment management firm of Scudder, Stevens and Clark Inc.

"We think the pluses will continue to outweigh the minuses, and the economy will avoid recession."

For many an armchair economist, the sight of the clampdown on lending immediately evokes

visions of a looming slump for workers consumers and businesses.

In the 1980s, the reasoning goes, business and financial activity was pumped up by a rapid expansion in the use of borrowed money. Now that restricted diet of credit has been prescribed, belt-tightening would seem to be the order of the day.

That certainly has been the case for the depressed home-building and real estate markets in many areas of the country.

But on an overall basis, Ms Allyn maintains, a slowdown in credit does not by itself guarantee an exactly parallel pattern in economic growth.

"Some parts of the economy use more credit than others," she points out. "Real estate, for example, is voracious."

"During the last half of the 1980s, mortgages devoured over 40 per cent of all new loans. Yet home and office building produced only about 6 per

cent of the Gross National Product."

"On the other side of the ledger, exporting — 14 per cent of GNP — uses only a smidgen of borrowing now and then to finance inventories or procure a letter of credit."

"The rising parts of the economy depend less on credit than the slowing parts."

Government statistics made public on Friday showed growth in output struggling along at a 1.2 per cent annual rate, after adjustment for inflation, in the second quarter of the year.

That gave investors scant encouragement about the prospects for improvement in corporate earnings, which lately have provoked more than a few problems in the stock market.

Alfred Godman, market strategist with A.G. Edwards and Sons Inc. in St Louis, said Monday

the "market was primed and ready for a pullback" after gaining some 350 points since the first of May.

"Excesses (in prices) had built up in relations to book value and earnings," he said.

Stock prices rebounded Tuesday and Wednesday, thanks to a bout of computerized buy programs, and some strength in technology issues and utilities.

Prices closed lower Thursday in around of selective futures-related selling and a sell-off in tobacco stocks after the New Jersey supreme court handed cigarette manufacturers a major defeat. The court ruled smokers or their survivors can seek damages for injury or death caused by failure to provide sufficient warning of health risks.

Prices fell again yesterday after the Commerce Department reported the nation's Gross National Product, battered by a plunge in exports, managed

only a 1.2 per cent gain in total output of goods and services in the second quarter, after a 1.7 per cent increase in the first quarter, analysts said.

Market forecasters had predicted an advance of 1.5 per cent to 1.8 per cent.

The economic news triggered a wave of futures-related selling resulting from stock-index arbitrage. The programmes, involving the sale of baskets of stocks and the purchase of index futures, were sparked when futures contracts dropped to small premiums, market watchers said.

The Dow Jones average of 30 industrials closed Friday at 2,599.51, down 62.63 from the week before. On Monday, the indicator plunged sharply, falling more than 100 points at one time before recovering, partly due to skepticism about economic and corporate earnings prospects.

The New York stock exchange composite dropped 4.33 to 193.32; the Nasdaq composite index for

the over-the-counter market fell 12.68 to 442.59, and the American stock exchange market value index was down 4.96 to 355.49.

"Volume on the big board averaged 171.72 million shares a day, against 166.96 million the week before."

"Increasingly, it appears that the ongoing story for the 1990s will be that of shrinkage of financial empires built on excessive debt," said Vincent Agnew of the Investment Management Group at Chicago Title and Trust Co.

"So far, the negative impact of this trend has been more pronounced in some areas of the country than others. But the economy is now beginning to make some modest progress despite the frugality that appears to be transforming the banking system."

"Our guess is the worst may be over and the short-term dislocations may in fact enhance chances for a more upbeat economic story in 1991."

Trading in shares increase

Value of Kuwaiti traded shares was KD15.64 million

ALSHALL index for Kuwaiti shareholding companies recorded on Wednesday July 25, 1990 an average of 38.91 points with a decrease of 0.84 point — 2.11 per cent — from last week's average of Wednesday July 18, 1990. Alshall index for non-Kuwaiti shareholding companies reached 51.71 points with a decrease of 1.73 points — 3.24 per cent — for the same period.

The trading volume (four days of trading only) for Kuwaiti shares reached 26.90 million shares at a daily average of 6.73 million shares with an increase of 97 per cent over previous week's daily average of 3.42 million shares. Non-Kuwaiti traded shares reached 5.651 million shares at a daily average of 1.413 million shares with an increase of 95 per cent over previous week's daily average of 0.725 million shares. The value of Kuwaiti traded shares was KD15.64 million at a daily average of KD3.91 million, an increase of 223 per cent over last week's daily average of KD1.21 million. The value of non-Kuwaiti traded shares was KD0.268 million at a daily average of KD0.067 million, an increase of 81 per cent over last week's daily average of KD0.037 million.

For the Kuwaiti shares market, the banking sector came first at 80 per cent of total trading against 46 per cent last week. National Bank of Kuwait had the lead at 48 per cent, followed by Kuwait Finance Bank at 22 per cent and the Gulf Bank at 15 per cent. The services sector came second at 8 per cent in which Mobile Telephone Systems Company had the lead at 87 per cent, followed by the Public Warehousing Company at 13 per cent. The investment sector came third at 7 per cent in which Coast Investment & Development Company had the lead at 62 per cent, followed by National Investments Company at 26 per cent and International Financial Advisors Company (IFA) at 7 per cent. As for the non-Kuwaiti shares market, Bahrain International Bank had the lead at 69 per cent, followed by Umm Al Qaiwain Cement Industries Company at 18 per cent, and Arabian General Investment Company (Shua'a) at 10 per cent.

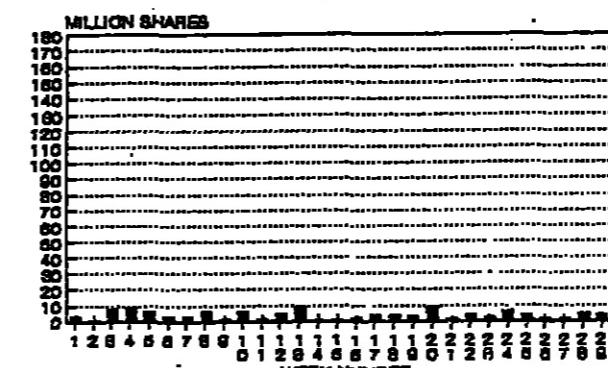
Call to debar Northrop Corp

WASHINGTON, July 28. (AP): The US Justice Department is recommending that the Northrop Corp, a giant military contractor that has pleaded guilty to fraud charges, be barred from building weapons for the nation's military.

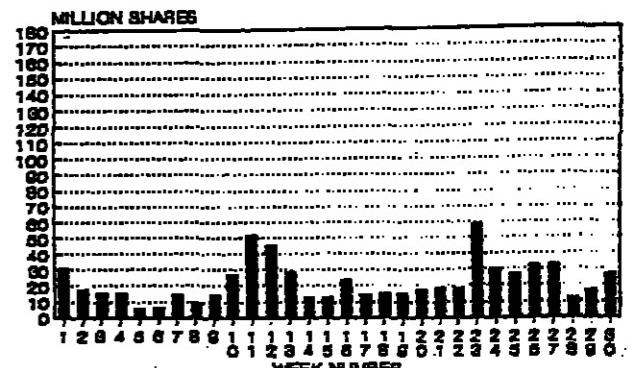
In a series of memorandums from March to June of this year, the department sharply criticised Northrop — the maker of the B-2 bomber and parts for the MX nuclear missile — for failing to conduct critical tests on nuclear weapons systems.

"If any case cries out for departmental action, this is the case," said a March 13 memo from the US attorney's office in Los Angeles to O. Kevin Vincent in the air force's General Counsel Office at the Pentagon.

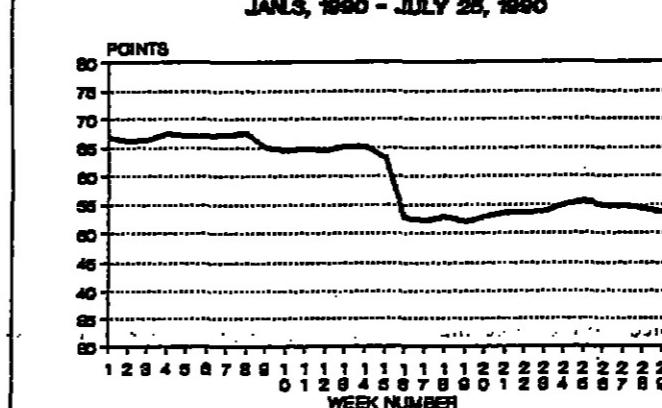
NON-KUWAITI SHAREHOLDING COMPANIES
WEEKLY TRADING VOLUME FROM
JAN13, 1990 - JULY 25, 1990



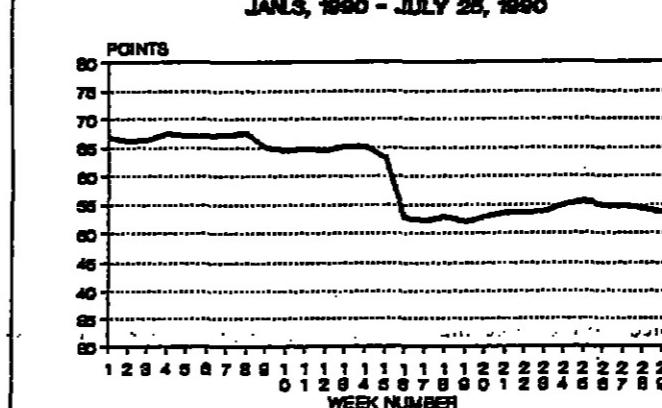
KUWAITI SHAREHOLDING COMPANIES
WEEKLY TRADING VOLUME FROM
JAN13, 1990 - JULY 25, 1990



ALSHALL PRICE INDEX
NON-KUWAITI SHAREHOLDING COMPANIES FROM
JAN13, 1990 - JULY 25, 1990



ALSHALL PRICE INDEX
KUWAITI SHAREHOLDING COMPANIES FROM
JAN13, 1990 - JULY 25, 1990





Marcel Steiner, the owner of the smallest theatre in the world, has a box office hit every time he puts on a show.

It's the smallest show on Earth

By Amanda Rotherham

EVERY actor's dream comes true for Marcel Steiner on the nights he goes to his theatre. For he has never played to anything but a full house.

But even flamboyant Marcel has to admit that this may be something to do with the fact that there are always only two seats to fill. And often, the cast outnumbers the audience in the world's smallest theatre.

Marcel has built his playhouse onto the sidecar of his motor-cycle. It has a stage with velvet curtains, two red seats...and a pair of opera glasses.

Packed houses have watched the actors perform everything from "A Tale of Two Cities" to "The Decline and Fall of the Third Reich, Including the Second World War." Marcel's 5ft-long, 2ft-wide theatre has wowed audiences all over the world for 20 years.

Burly Marcel is currently starring in the leading role of "The Secret Wives of Henry VIII," with his touring company. Dressed as the Merry Monarch, he told me: "I've had to cut a hole in the floor so that I can stand upright. After all, I am over six feet tall and weigh in at 14 stone (196 pounds)."

"Although my stage is only two feet square, it can handle a cast of six. Of course, one player has to leave before another comes on. And some of the actors and actresses do quick changes outside the sidecar and play several parts each."

"At first, this was all a joke. But now the theatre has been going for 20 years and has developed a life of its own."

He continued: "I never intended to keep it going. But now I've resigned myself to the fact that I'm never going to get away from it."

Marcel, a Londoner in his forties, boomed: "Only one person has ever walked out. This was because there was a camel race going on at the resort we were playing, and the man wanted to place a bet."

Marcel, who says he has based the design of his theatre on the London Palladium, believes the limited space in which he has to work presents a challenge. And sometimes it is difficult for the audience too.

He said: "There was one incident that had the cast in stitches. One of the audience was, without exaggeration, very large and about 30 stone (420 pounds). This meant that he had to be the entire audience but the man was determined to see one of our shows."

"Just to get him in, we had to take down one of the sides of the theatre. Unfortunately, his weight

plunged the auditorium to the ground and the stage up in the air."

"But we carried on, trying not to slide down on top of him. Our theatre-goer was very good-humoured about the whole thing."

The sale of only two tickets to every performance would bring the curtain down on Marcel's mini-theatre. So he is lured by entertainment centres to perform, and hands out the tickets on a "first come, first served" basis.

Almost all the plays performed by the theatre are classics. Abridged classics that never take more than half an hour from the opening scene to the final bow. For the audience can get restless in such a confined space.

Marcel admits that the most abbreviated form of any play he has attempted was that sweeping "Decline and Fall of the Third Reich, Including the Second World War." He says the battle scenes were the most memorable part of that performance.

His current play tells the story of how Henry VIII ordered the execution of many of his wives. A guillotine has been placed on the roof of the theatre, so that the heads fall back on to the stage. Indeed, they almost tumble into the laps of the audience.

"The Secret Wives of Henry VIII" has a cast of three. Two actresses play the parts of all the short-reigning Queens, not to mention the palace servants and ladies-in-waiting.

Although this is an abridged version, in the 20-minute performance costume changes have not been skimped on. There are dozens of them in the show, which are done hastily backstage, or rather, outside.

This season's performance is the first after a long break of nearly two years for the theatre was short of money. Marcel tried to forget all about his smallest show on earth.

But this didn't work. Fairy godparents in the form of Dutch funfair owners appeared and they paid Marcel to bring his theatre out of retirement and put it back on the road.

Now Marcel would like to plan a world tour. His motorbike and sidecar theatre have appeared in Amsterdam, Belgium, Ireland and even Times Square in New York.

But before planning shows in more far-flung destinations, there are festivals in London and Liverpool this summer. This will give Marcel a chance to perfect the latest performance of "The Secret Wives of Henry VIII."

But there is one well-known story, not yet performed by Marcel, which seems to be ideal for his mini-theatre... "A Sidecar Named Desire."



The smallest theatre in the world has an auditorium big enough for only two. Marcel Steiner, at over 6 feet tall, has had to cut a hole in the stage floor to fit himself in.

More hope for osteoporosis sufferers

Exploring health with Jaffrey A. Fisher, M.D.

BEFORE I began writing this column I looked back over the past three (plus) years (when I began) to see what I'd said about osteoporosis. I've written several columns on the subject, and well I should. Osteoporosis is an enormous public health problem, which causes more than 1.5 million fractures each year and costs up to \$10 billion.

Basically what I said just a few years ago was that the only viable option was to prevent osteoporosis through calcium supplementation begun by the age of 30, regular weight-bearing exercise, not smoking, and women using estrogen after the menopause unless there was a good reason for them not to take it, such as gall bladder disease or previous breast or uterine cancer.

As far as treatment went, for those who

were unlucky enough to already have osteoporosis, the prognosis was pretty bleak. The same estrogen used to help prevent osteoporosis was also being used to treat it, with some modest results, but that was about it. Everything else that might be available had to be qualified with "in the future."

Fortunately, for those with osteoporosis the future is now, at least some of it. Estrogen is still being used, but now there is also available calcitonin, a hormone that is either injected or taken intranasally (through the nose). It is safe, helps stave off further bone loss and even increases bone density a little.

And, unless you've cancelled the subscription to your newspaper or forgotten to pay your cable bill for your television, you've probably heard the latest, and pos-

sibly the best news of all. A new drug, not really new, but this is the most extensively tested called etidronate has been shown to increase bone density and prevent fractures in 429 women over 60 years of age.

Etidronate works in some ways similarly to estrogen and calcitonin, that is they are both anti-resorptive agents. What does this mean? Bone is continually being remodeled, some of it being laid down and the rest being resorbed. In the person without osteoporosis, these two processes are in sync; just as much bone is laid down as is resorbed. When the resorption process exceeds the laying down of new bone -- either because the laying down has slowed down or the resorption has sped up, the net result is bone loss and osteoporosis.

Etidronate and calcitonin work to slow

down the resorption, which helps put the two processes back in harmony. So does etidronate, but it works much better, and while the effects both estrogen and calcitonin seem to peak at about two years -- with etidronate the effects probably last longer. This isn't definitely known yet, as the research only went on for two years, but the physicians who conducted the study are optimistic.

Those on the etidronate had a 50 per cent decrease in spinal fractures over the two-year period, and those who had the lowest bone density to begin with, that is those at greatest risk of having a fracture, had a 23 decrease.

But etidronate is not the perfect solution.

Newark Museum

Vital link in American museum chain

By Margaret Tsuda

NEWARK, N.J.: When I read that the Newark Museum had undergone a major renovation, I was as delighted as if the news had been of a friend's good fortune. I had lived for 20 years within walking distance of the museum and knew its strong points and its drawbacks.

The impress upon it of John Cotton Dana, its founder, was, in my estimation, the Newark Museum's strongest point. Dana had been librarian of the Newark Free Library for only one year when, in 1903, he set aside two rooms on the top floor of the library -- one for the Art Museum and one for the Science Museum. The art quickly overshadowed the science aspect, although the sciences still have a place in the museum.

Dana had vigorous ideas about the educational function of both his library and his museum. A woman who was briefly one of his assistants told me that when she and her husband planned a trip to Europe, Dana had prepared a questionnaire which she was to present to museums in every city she visited. He wanted to know how the European museums related to their communities and their schoolchildren. The answer was that they didn't. Only in the great museums like the Louvre in Paris where art students came to copy the Old Masters was there anything resembling an educative function. In the others, an awed few tiptoed past the assembled treasures. This was definitely not Dana's idea of a museum.

He quickly established programmes which brought schoolchildren to the museum, or special exhibits to the classrooms. A Junior Museum was established as early as 1913. There were also outreach programmes for adults.

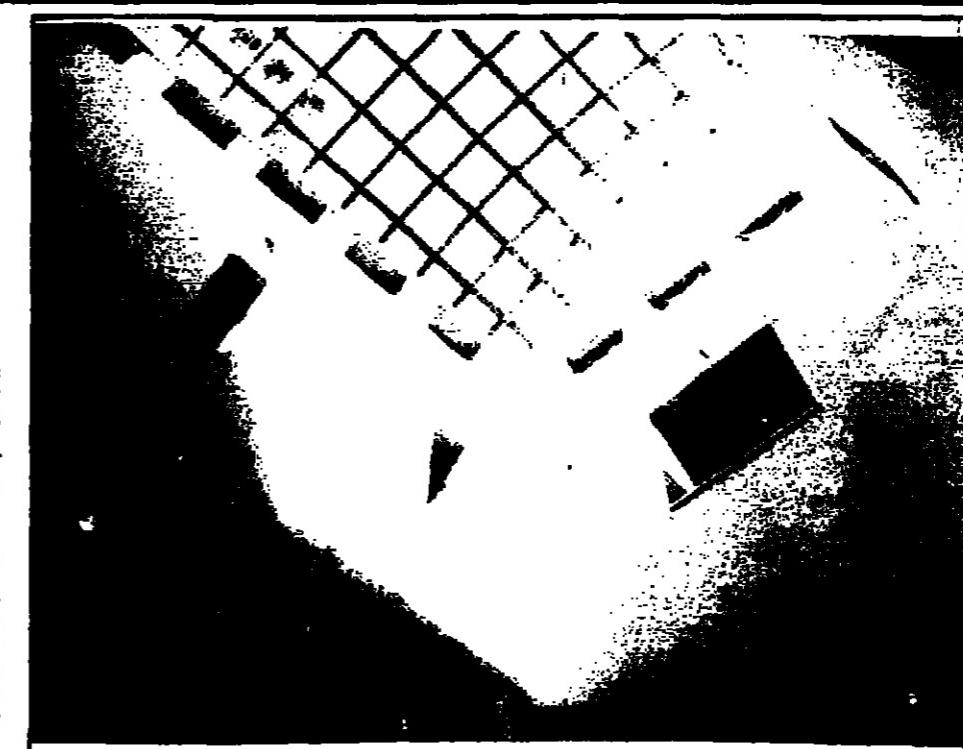
Dana was also farsighted enough to acquire collections of art which today justifies the current director's, Samuel Miller's, opinion that the Newark Museum is an important link in the magnificent chain of American art museums stretching from Boston to Washington, D.C.

The Newark Museum's first major exhibit in 1910 featured -- perhaps oddly -- a fine collection of Japanese art and "Paintings and Bronzes by Contemporary American Artists." The latter was very likely the only museum exhibit of American art that year, or one of a very few, Miller affirms. "What Dana didn't want us to do was to go into the 'Old Master' business. He wanted to concentrate on American art and the contribution of American artists." Dana must have also realized that Newark could not compete with the well-heeled Metropolitan Museum in New York City and the Philadelphia Museum for the purchase of European art.

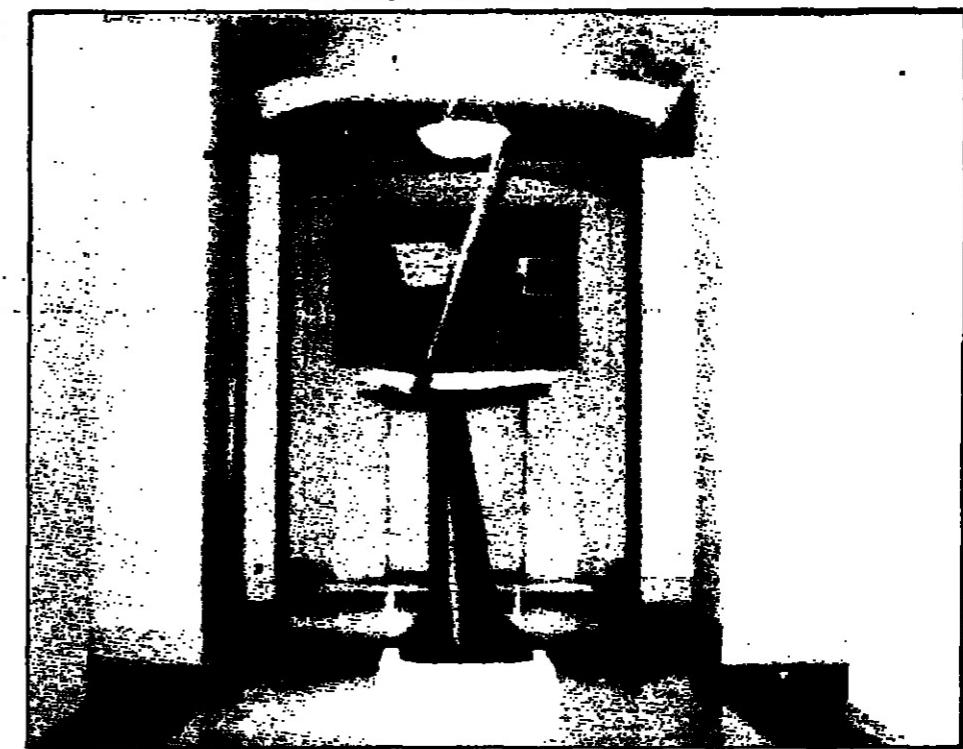
His interest in the exotic, however, was strong. It probably stemmed from an insatiable curiosity and a conviction that art does not belong to a designated elite. Another of his brilliant acquisitions was the Tibetan collection. It surely took nerve for a museum director to buy a mass of art and artifacts from a place which must have been almost unknown in the early days of this century. But now the Tibetan collection ranks among the foremost in the world.

With this background, I was intensely curious to know what the renovation accomplished. The first museum building was in what the architect on the renovation project, Michael Graves, termed "Beaux Arts style." Behind a sedate, squared-off granite front was a large foyer and an even larger sunken atrium, both of which were great for fundraising affairs but were not good exhibition spaces. They did not leave space on the main floor, resulting in some exhibitions being cramped and even claustrophobic.

Over the course of years the museum acquired its neighbour, the Ballantine House, a handsome late-Victorian mansion, and a



North Wing Atrium of the Newark Museum.



Education Centre Hallway.

narrow office building running back behind the mansion to the next street. The restoration of the Ballantine House to its Victorian splendour got underway in 1972.

The latest addition to the complex as the museum's neighbour on the other side, the old YWCA building. A gift of the City of Newark, this reactivated a desire on the part of director Miller and the museum trustees to bring the whole thing together. Fortunately they already knew the man to do the job. Michael Graves had previously submitted a plan for the three buildings and the addition of a fourth -- the peculiar architectural mix didn't faze him.

Michael Graves is known as a Post-Modern architect and his Portland Building in Portland, Ore., is hailed as a Post-Modern masterpiece. The term Post-Modern in architecture seems to indicate the move away from the shining glass-walled Modernist style with its vast open interior spaces toward a pragmatic approach which considers earlier architectural solutions whenever appropriate.

While the management of the Newark Museum from Dana to Miller has been prudent enough not to have a charge admission, the museum has never had money to fill around on marble and plush elegance. There is a vinyl floor covering designed by Graves with varying patterns in the new wings which is easy to maintain and easy on the museum goers' feet. However, a theatre-type auditorium where the "Y's" gymnasium was

is as comfortable-looking as the former one was uncomfortable.

The architect ignored the exterior disparity of the four buildings except to design a handsome entrance for the new South Wing utilizing great bronze doors and a sweeping staircase, referred to in a news item as "ceremonial."

But is the North Wing, the former storage building for insurance company records, which is the "Cinderella of the story" and the architect's tour de force, Graves told an interviewer: "The North Wing makes one think of the Uffizi (Florence, Italy) for several reasons. First of all, the light here is wonderful. Second, the name Uffizi comes from the word 'office.' It was an office building, just as the North Wing was.... ours is a sort of 'L' and not a square doughnut, but we nevertheless will take a kind of yellow brick road through the whole museum, which will be filled with light, filled with major spaces."

To achieve that light, Graves opened up a three-storey atrium which is completely in harmony with the original atrium. It changes the interior so much that strolling from one gallery to another, the viewer has no sense of going through different structures. There are other modifications and unifying ornamentation. The architect also designed the light fixtures. I was told the Graves used some 30 different subtle, neutral shades of paint to enhance the various spaces and the collection.

he had no idea what director Joe Dante was doing with the Gremlins and puppets who operated the imps until he saw the completed picture.

For three months after finishing his work with human actors, Dante directed sequences that included only the Gremlins and the special effects department at Warner Bros.

"It was a lot easier to work with the Gremlins the second time around," Galligan said. "I knew what to expect from the mechanical aspects. And I concentrated on the puppets as living creatures rather than contraptions."

"In my scenes with the Gremlins it was like working with animals, although it was a bit disconcerting to see five or six guys lying on the floor manipulating the puppets."

"There's not much difference whether you're pretending to talk to a creature or a human who is pretending to be your father. It's all pretending."

Cinema

Gremlins charisma

with his rascous little co-stars.

"I've been surprised by the reaction of friends who have seen this sequel," he said with a grin. "You could say I have a rather thankless part. I'm the Bud Abbot of the movie, the straight man."

"That's always a little frustrating because as an actor I want to do more, a few moments in which I can create for myself. But I'm well aware that audiences come to see the Gremlins and that's the finale to zonk the little creeps into oblivion -- until, that is, the inevitable *Gremlins III* comes along."

"There just isn't enough time in a Gremlin picture to put much meat on the

characters of Kate and Billy, the roles Phoebe (Cates) and I play. No one bothers to make our parts more interesting. So we ad lib what we can to show the relationship between us."

"The Gremlins are the stars. Even

John Glover, who plays the Donald trump-type character so beautifully, is overshadowed by them."

Galligan laughed and recalled WC Field's immortal admonition to actors: "Never work with animals or children."

"It's true," Galligan said. "Only Gremlins are bigger scene-stealers than any kids or real-life animals."

After Galligan completed his scenes,

BLONDIE — By Doreen Yarbro & Stan Drake



HAGAS THE HORRIBLE



AGATHA CRUMPT



BEETLE BAILEY — Mort Walker



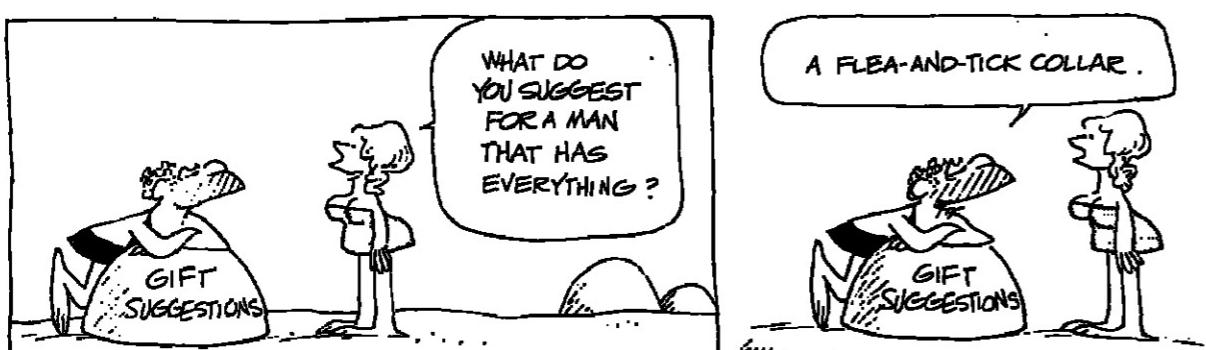
THE WIZARD OF ID — By Brian Parker & Johnny Hart



ANDY GARD



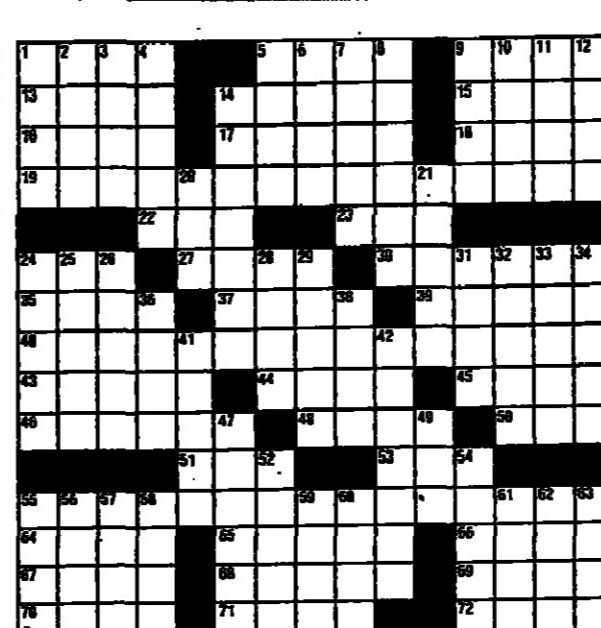
B.C. — By Johnny Hart



HE-MAN — By G. Foster & J. Shurtliff



TODAY'S CROSSWORD



ACROSS

- 1 Ullagone!
- 5 Canvas cover, for short
- 9 Assistant, on board
- 13 Small amount
- 14 Sweetie
- 15 King or Arkin
- 16 Wrinkle remover
- 17 — de menthe
- 18 Chalcedony
- 19 Legendary friends
- 22 Robot drama
- 23 Coral or Red
- 24 Sound of a blow
- 27 — the knot
- 30 Ramekins
- 35 Garnishes a cake
- 37 Scene of Perry's victory
- 39 Not a soul
- 40 Legendary twins
- 43 City on the Allegheny
- 44 Yemen's capital
- 45 Streeter's "Mable"
- 46 Objective
- 48 One way to eat a burger
- 50 Answer to a proposal
- 51 Macaw
- 53 Assist
- 55 See 44 Across Repeatedly
- 65 Toot
- 66 Fling
- 67 Euphemistic oath
- 68 Arena accommodations
- 69 Off the straight line
- 70 Bullring cheers
- 71 A large amount
- 72 Speech problem
- 73 Near-Eastern coin
- 74 Auctioneer's last word
- 75 In need of damping
- 76 Harden
- 77 Species divisions
- 78 Party line
- 79 Poet St. Vincent Millay
- 80 Prohibition et al.
- 81 Money, in Venice
- 82 In need of damping
- 83 Small amount
- 84 Mister, in Madrid
- 85 Shift
- 86 Ripened
- 87 Freeway accesses
- 88 Plundered
- 89 Prepare potatoes
- 90 Kirgiz range
- 91 Scarlet's home
- 92 Finales
- 93 More alarming
- 94 Cashew
- 95 West Indian of yore
- 96 Ornamental loop
- 97 Florida city
- 98 North Sea feeder
- 99 Short distance

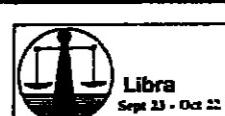
DOWN

- 1 At the center of
- 2 Money, in Venice
- 3 Small amount
- 4 Mister, in Madrid
- 5 Shift
- 6 Ripened
- 7 Freeway accesses
- 8 Plundered
- 9 Prepare potatoes
- 10 Kirgiz range
- 11 Scarlet's home
- 12 Finales
- 13 More alarming
- 14 Cashew
- 15 West Indian of yore
- 16 Ornamental loop
- 17 — the knot
- 18 Chalcedony
- 19 Legendary friends
- 20 Robot drama
- 21 Coral or Red
- 22 Sound of a blow
- 23 Coral or Red
- 24 Sound of a blow
- 25 Ramekins
- 26 Garnishes a cake
- 27 — the knot
- 28 Prohibition et al.
- 29 Near-Eastern coin
- 30 Auctioneer's last word
- 31 Scarlet's home
- 32 In need of damping
- 33 Harden
- 34 Species divisions
- 35 Garnishes a cake
- 36 Party line
- 37 Scene of Perry's victory
- 38 Poet St. Vincent Millay
- 39 Not a soul
- 40 Legendary twins
- 41 Tatum or Ryan
- 42 Processions
- 43 City on the Allegheny
- 44 Yemen's capital
- 45 Streeter's "Mable"
- 46 Objective
- 47 Believe in
- 48 Make over
- 49 Norse goddess of healing
- 50 Prohibition et al.
- 51 Macaw
- 52 Savory jelly
- 53 Assist
- 54 Takeover design
- 55 Make over
- 56 Pennsylvania Ave. office
- 57 Nothing more than
- 58 Footed vases
- 59 Range
- 60 Twerp
- 61 Balthazar et al.
- 62 Functions
- 63 Short distance

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

ERAM	LASS	TAMER
ROMA	ECHO	ENATE
IDOL	SHAD	ANTON
CANALS	KOP	OHNO
ANGIE	DREMILY	
SARIS	PEEVEE	
ASHE	DALE	DRPAT
ACE	TAE	AOS
BILLOR	RAY	MST
ASPIRE	VESTS	
HOOT	TAW	AMANDA
ANNIE	MARR	EGAD
LIENS	BLOD	LOGE
STAGE	SSTS	STER

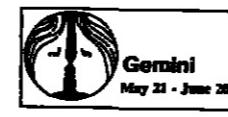
YOUR STARS

Aries
March 21 - April 19Cancer
June 21 - July 22Libra
Sept 23 - Oct 22Capricorn
Dec 21 - Jan 19

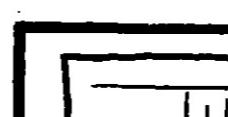
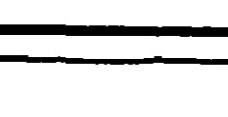
You are more liable to give the game away so watch your step. Make sure you get all the rest you need but do not become lazy. Try to take your mind off work for the day. Be courteous.

Taurus
April 21 - May 20Leo
July 21 - Aug 21Scorpio
Oct 23 - Nov 22

Not everything is to your liking but you will be able to make the most of it. Something you had hoped would happen but it will not be as you had expected. You should try to avoid negative thoughts. Be resilient.

Gemini
May 22 - June 20Virgo
Aug. 23 - Sept. 22

You will be able to do something new and different. However a routine matter should not be neglected. Try to set your children a good example. Make sure you take regular exercise. Be tolerant.

Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 22Pisces
Feb. 19 - March 20

Stand up for your rights but do not be insistent on every detail. A friendly discussion should not be allowed to turn into an argument. Try to find a proper balance between reason and your emotions. Be tolerant.



"A word of warning. When he comes in, don't fence with him."



"Believe me. Inside every high-level executive there's a human being trying to get out."

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHAREEF

THE QUEEN SHOWS UP IN THE END

Both vulnerable. North deals.

NORTH

♦ Q 5 2
♥ Q 10 7
♦ A Q 8 4
♦ K 9 3

WEST

♦ A K 8 6 4 3
♦ A 5 2
♦ 7 6
♦ Q 5

EAST

♦ J 10
♦ 6 4
♦ J 10 9 3
♦ 10 8 6 4 2

SOUTH

♦ 9 7
♦ K J 9 8 3
♦ K 5 2
♦ A 3 7

The bidding:
North East South West
1 ♦ Pass 1 ♦ 1 ♦ 1 ♦
2 ♦ Pass 4 ♦ Pass 2 ♦ Pass

Opening lead: King of ♣

Don't commit yourself to a line of play until you have found out as much as possible about the hand. What you don't know can harm you!

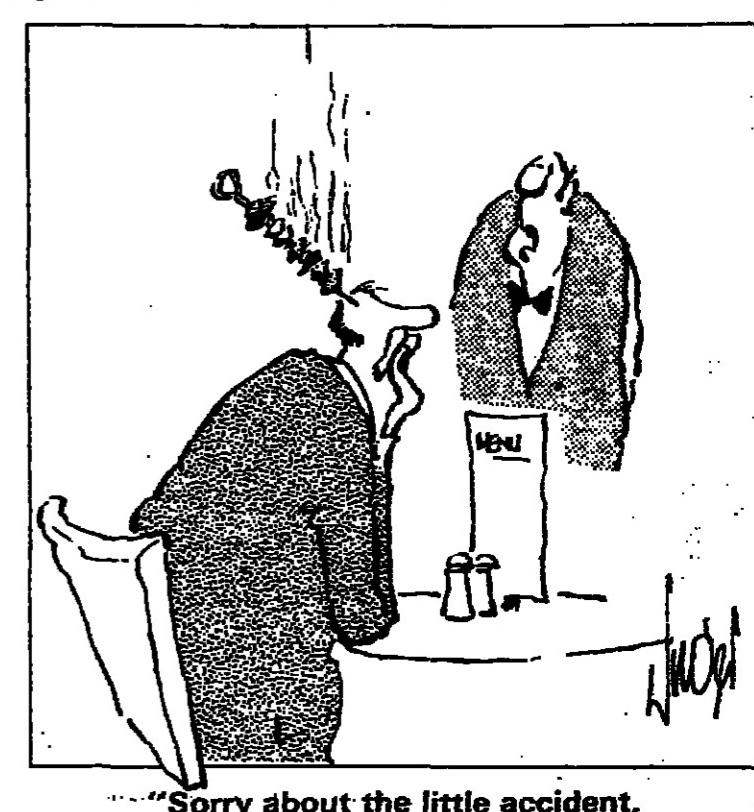
We are not enthralled with North's raise to two hearts. With a perfectly balanced hand and a queen of spades that rated to be a wasted

value, a pass would have been more prudent. It's doubtful North's action would have made any difference to the final contract—four hearts was quite reasonable.

West led the king of spades and continued with the ace and another for East to ruff away dummy's queen. Declarer overruffed. West rose with the ace of hearts when declarer led a heart toward the table, then exited with a heart, leaving declarer to make the rest of the tricks.

There were three possibilities—either a 3-3 diamond split, a club finesse or dropping a doubleton queen of clubs. Before committing to a line of play, declarer cashed the remaining trumps, discarding a club from the table. Next came three rounds of diamonds, with West discarding a spade on the last round.

The king of clubs now reduced all hands to two cards. When declarer led a club from the board, East produced the ten. If you now decided to finesse, you have not followed the play closely. Declarer knew that East's remaining card was a diamond, so he shot up with the ace of spades and won his game.



"Sorry about the little accident, sir. Do you still wish to order something?"

SNIPPETS

Pasay's turn next: Pasay City Mayor Pablo Cuneta warned vendors to clear up the streets or suffer the same fate that befell the vendors in Bacoor, Paranaque whose stalls were demolished by Transportation and Communication Secretary Oscar Orbos.

Cuneta also clarified early reports that he opposed Orbos' campaign in the city. The mayor said he was advocating for a kinder treatment of vendors.

In answer to Orbos' request for co-operation, Cuneta ordered Pasay City police chief Lt Col Rogelio Domingo, city engineer Jesus Reyna, and Environmental Sanitation chief Rodolfo Santos to give full support to the transportation secretary's campaign to clear up the streets.

Liberated and Taft Sts in Pasay were among the targets of the Metropolitan Police Traffic Command (MPTC) in decongesting the Metro Manila city streets. Others are Echague, Carriedo and Villalobos in Quiapo, Recto and adjoining streets in Divisoria.

Supply cement or face takeover: Trade and Industry Sec. Jose Concepcion Jr ordered two cement makers to supply 60,000 bags to government projects in Region 6 in five days or face government takeover.

Concepcion said according to field reports, Mindanao Portland Cement Corp of Iligan City and Floro Cement Corp, of Misamis Oriental were reneging on their commitment to supply cement to government projects.

Mindanao Portland and Floro Cement had pledged in April to allocate 30,000 bags of cement on the second week of May and another 30,000 bags next month to the Department of Public Works and Highways.

Theoderico Denje Jr marketing manager of both firms, said he had informed Region 6 trade department office last May 3 that "due to some structural problems, the companies regret it cannot fulfill its commitments."

Mindanao Portland can produce 390,000 bags of cement monthly while Floro can produce 1.2 million bags a month.

The regular monthly allocation for Floro by Mindanao Portland and Floro Cement is 150,000 bags.

Fotog nabbed with guns, shabu: A photographer working for TV host and newspaper columnist Maurice Archache was arrested for alleged possession of firearms and shabu by Capital Regional Command (Capcom) soldiers in Manila.

Alex Van Hagen, 28, was surprised in his house on Lamayan St., St. Ana, at about 4 am by Capcom soldiers led by Capt Federico Laciste.

The raiders, with a search warrant issued by Caloocan City Judge Antonio Fineza, claimed they found several aluminum foil containing shabu, shabu paraphernalia, an M-67 fragmentation grenade, and a .22 pistol from Van Hagen.

Laciste said Hagen was not their real target but a certain Florencio who was an alleged drug pusher. Florencio was not in the house during the raid.

Unemployment rate up: Unemployed people have increased to 2,066 million despite of gradual but consistent improvements in the labour sector, the Bureau of Labour and Employment Statistics (BLES) revealed.

Full-time workers have decreased from 14,878 million to 14,576 million, the BLES said.

Significant gains in employment were achieved in northern Mindanao, Metro Manila, central Mindanao, Bicol, central Luzon and western Mindanao, the BLES said.

Shortfalls were reported in central and eastern Visayas. Youth employment declined by 5.6 per cent while female employment rose by 0.9 per cent, the BLES said.

Refund tuition excess: Senate Youth Committee chairman Sen. Jose Lina Jr urged the Education Department to order schools which had raised tuition beyond the prescribed ceilings to reimburse the excess payment to students.

In a letter to Education Sec. Isidro Carino, Lina said he has received reports that about 10 schools have already collected tuition higher than the allowed 6.5 per cent increase.

"The present economic situation does not warrant unreasonable fees," he said.

Consul-general's son in shabu rap: A son of the honorary consul-general of the Dominican Republic to the Philippines and his stewardess lover were charged yesterday before the Makati Regional Trial Court for allegedly selling shabu.

Department of Justice prosecutors said Andrew Ronald Litton and Karla Marquez had been nabbed by NBI agents at their residence in Paranaque.

Confiscated from them were several plastic containers of shabu, paraphernalia for sniffing it, guns and ammunitions.

Litton and Marquez denied selling shabu and said the confiscated items had been planted by the NBI agents.

Zambo murderer killed: An argument between two men led to the death of one of them and the wounding of the other in Zamboanga.

Elizalde Garcia, died from four bullet wounds in the body. He was allegedly shot by Pat. Pose Castillo Jr who was arresting him for shooting Gilbert Silabay.

Garcia shot Silabay in front of the office of the Department of Public Works and Highways.

Castillo Jr, who heard the shot, responded and tried to convince Garcia to surrender.

Garcia, witnesses said, refused to surrender and was about to shoot Castillo when the policeman shot him.

Meanwhile, a teenaged girl was found dead with 11 stab wounds at the boot of the Jumbo bridge in Barangay Tetuan.

The girl who was wearing a T-shirt and short pants, could have been killed by drug addicts, police said.

Woman fotog robbed: A woman commercial photographer lost more than P100,000 in cash and jewellery to men who broke into her home in Barangay Mojor, Malabas, Bulacan.

Adonis Tanjoco, 24, told police investigators she discovered the robbery when she arrived home from a wedding.

Investigators said the robbers entered Tanjoco's house by destroying the iron window grills near her bedroom.

Aside from the money and jewellery in a small box, the robbers also took two cameras worth P17,000.

6 Benguet NPA rebels captured: Camp Dangwa, Benguet — Six New People's Army (NPA) regulars, including an area commander, have been captured and three firearms have been seized in five separate encounters in the Cordilleras since the military launched an offensive.

Three of the NPAs were arrested in Kalinga, Apayao. Probers identified them as Nicancor Guevarra, alias Ka Dario, an area commander and Kingdom Cayom, alias Ka Nestor, both of Sitio Bangil, Nambucayan, Tabuk, and Nestor Sabado, alias Ka Journey, of Bay-Ligan town.

The other three NPAs were arrested in Baguio. They were Orlando Perez, alias Ka Hugo, Susano Abalos, alias Ka Tanny and Fidel Santos, alias Ka Jovy who were all arrested on Soliman St.

Cordillera Recom chief Brig. Gen. Juanito Aquinas said no casualties were reported on the government side in the five encounters while an undetermined number of rebels were killed or wounded.

Two women pushers fall: Two lady pushers were arrested by police yesterday afternoon in Antipolo, Rizal.

They were Noemi Nueva and Raquel del Carmen both of Sitio Parangan.

Sgt. Ceferino Avendano said one of his men posed as an addict and bought marijuana from Nueva in front of her house.

Nueva tried to escape but police cornered her on a vacant lot near the police headquarters.

During interrogation Nueva pointed to Del Carmen as her source.

Shootout: two car thieves killed: Two car thieves were killed in an encounter with soldiers in Barangay Sto. Tomas San Jos City Nueva Ecija yesterday.

They had residence certificates in the name of Anacleto Valderama, 28 and Delfin de Castro, 31.

Soldiers led by Capt. Vladimir Kabulungan and spotted two men or board a stolen jeepney with plate number CPD-127.

The soldiers tried to stop the men who then opened fire at them.

The suspects died on the spot from gunshot wounds in the body.

Authorities recovered two .38 revolvers, bullets, two hand grenades, a master key.

Elkin and Mari-Vick Marin tie the knot

By Beda Pagdagdagan Jr

other people, white could be white but for me white could be brown. So I really wasn't biased. I discovered the Filipinas with my own eyes."

It was in the party at the Faces disco where Elkin first met Mari-Vick. It was a very casual meeting but Elkin's account of it proves the romantic and passionate nature of the Latino — even in words. "I was in that party with a friend from Europe and we were out to find some action," he fondly recalls. "But the night turned out to be boring until I saw these two beautiful flowers in front of us. The scene was a garden of sorts but these two flowers stood out. They were Mari-Vick and her friend Ana. Right away I was very impressed. I hoped Mari-Vick would look at me. Nevertheless, I tried like a snake to get close. I did and I introduced myself to her. If there's love at first sight, that was it. That very moment I felt that I was already desperately in love with her."

Mari-Vick has her own version: "I really didn't want to go out that night but my friend insisted that I go. It was getting to be quite boring when I saw these two foreigners sitting at a table. They kept staring at us and they were smiling although at the time I thought they were leering. I didn't find it rude but I thought it was funny, in fact, I was laughing. And then he approached us, introduced himself and invited me to his show. I didn't know the Salsa Boys then so I didn't know what he was talking about."

That initial meeting took a few minutes and was insignificant as far as Mari-Vick was concerned. But on the weekend of that same week friends asked her to watch this show which featured two foreigners. According to her friends, they were terrific performers. Unknown to Mari-Vick, they were the Salsa Boys.

That, more or less, started a whirlwind romance with Elkin needing two weeks to propose marriage. "That was all the time I needed to decide that I finally found my bride. In Mari-Vick, I found all the qualities I've been looking for in a woman which I never found in other women before. By this time I've already found out for myself the qualities Filipinas are known for and she has all of them plus tremendous talent and charm."



Elkin, of course, possesses the legendary Latin passion and charm and the good looks that could melt any Filipina's heart. "Without a doubt, he has them," Mari Vick says with pride.

Although possessing the qualities Filipinas are known for, Mari-Vick isn't exactly the typical Filipina. "I believe in asserting myself," she says with conviction. "A lot of Filipino women don't usually say what's in their mind. I do. I don't usually follow the dictates of the society. I always do what I personally think is right for me."

Most Filipino males may not be at ease with such an attitude but it is certainly one part of Mari-Vick which Elkin admires most. "We get along perfectly," she says. "In fact, we complement each other. I help him in his music and he helps me in my business."

My non-conformist attitude goes along well with Elkin's which is basically the same. We're quite alike — in our personalities, even our taste in music. We're both spontaneous, adventurous and "spur-of-the-moment" people. We're quite alike and this reflects in our marriage and lifestyle and it is working quite well."

"We don't set a specific time for sleep, for meals or for play. And we both see no problem in that. In fact, that's how we are."

Elkin himself isn't typical Latin male from where the super-possessive, jealous macho type originated. "I find the macho image and all the connotations that go with it old-fashioned. It doesn't work anymore especially with the new generation woman."

The man from Iloilo

Many years ago he was the flamboyant, man about town. It was not unusual, he had the right family background, the proper education and is a scion to one of the country's biggest business empires. He had all the qualities to be one of the country's most eligible bachelors.

Albertito Lopez, Congressman from Iloilo, heir apparent to the political career of the former Vice-President of the Republic of the Philippines; the future Vice-President of our country.

As the son of a politician, Albertito has all of what it takes to be a successor. With the political influence of his father, plus his personal merits, he is among those whose names are to be reckoned with in Philippine politics. His bailiwick is the Visayas, where the Lopez name spells magic.

Albertito was born and raised in Iloilo, where his family is one of the elite. He had his early schooling in the province and just like the privileged class of his era, he went to the United States to continue his studies. It was a military school for young Albertito. His contemporary during his school days was the now President of the Republic of the Philippines, Mrs. Corazon Cojuangco Aquino.

Just like the many scions to big business empires, it is natural that Albertito should train to run the family business. He joined the Manila Electric Company, which is family owned and the Manila Chronicle. Today, his involvement is in the family's real estate business.

Perhaps, as his connection with the family business did not require so much time, he had all the time to live a carefree lifestyle. Those were the days when so much time could be spent socializing, and meeting the right people.

Soon, the novelty of the carefree living lost its glamour. There was a change of heart. He wanted to be useful, specially to the province he loved so much. And the only direction he can



President and Alberto as Vice-President. Alberto feels that with the magic name in the Visayas, he has a good chance of making it. He can win hands down.

As a congressman, he thinks of the small people. Together with his wife, Emily, Alberto has come up with livelihood projects, aimed to augment the financial resources of his constituents. So far, the livelihood projects had been successful.

He is busy helping the small people. He wants the reopening of Banco Filipino. The bank has

always been known to serve the ordinary mortals. Some used to bank with Banco Filipino to save their life time savings. With the closing of the bank, the small ones have lost their future. And Alberto, for working for this bank's reopening should be lauded.

Notwithstanding his faults, he is working his way towards the right direction. He has aimed to help the less fortunate doing it his way. He must have that rare feeling of being in cloud nine. He is doing his share to make this country a good place to live in.

Embassy corner

Appeal for donations for earthquake victims

THE Philippine Embassy, in compliance with an instruction from Manila, wishes to announce that it is now ready to accept and receive donations for the victims of recent earthquake that hit the Philippines.

In this connection, the embassy would like to appeal to all kind-hearted Filipino workers as well as sympathetic employers and concerned people to heed this call for help. Thousands of our unfortunate countrymen are affected by the disaster and are in dire need of help. Donations either in cash or in kind will be properly acknowledged. However, for purposes of convenience and to facilitate the immediate shipments of donations without additional cost of handling and freight charges, cash donations is preferred.

To avoid complications and to reach the widest response of this call, the embassy will be officially announcing organisations or establishments who are authorised and deputed to accept donations.

The embassy would like also to announce that Filipinos coming from the affected areas can now inquire the list of victims through the following telephone numbers 532-9315 to 8 or you may wish to visit the embassy at Jabriya, House No 363, Area 10.

Flowery food

WE would like to show you that some ornamental or flowering plants have some culinary uses and can be used as food and beverage ingredients. In many countries in Europe and in North and South America the flowers of ornamental plants are made into candies. Some are used for flavouring and even others are used as main ingredients of some particular recipes. Do you know that vanilla comes from the beans or seeds of pod of pollinated orchid flowers? The generic name of this orchid is vanilla and is found in the South American sub-tropical regions. Some species are also found in the Philippines. The beans are roasted and ground and mixed with some extracts for fermentation which results to the vanilla we use for cakes and desserts. Like other epiphytic orchids, the vanilla grows and lives on big tree bark. They enjoy filtered sunlights and cool temperature with a humidity of 50 to 70 per cent. If you want to grow a vanilla orchid you must recapture its original habitat in the outermost part of the forest. This means that you have to provide the plant with lush, cool, humid and partly shaded environment. Give it enough water to keep its roots and leaves moist but not soaked. Occasionally spray it with fertilizers for growth and for blooming such as phoenix, gavita, siam, or albatross. Apply the fertilizer at a dosage of 1 tsp. per gallon of water every week. Since the vanilla orchid has been taken out of its original habitat the plant cannot have its own immunity against natural enemies such as insects, bacteria and fungi. Therefore you must give it a regular application of pesticides such as terasan, dithane-M45, benlate or boltran once a month at the same dosage as the fertilizer. Phytosan can be used as a prophylactic to prevent algae and other fungi.

Violets, geranium, begonia flowers are edible and can be made into sweets or candies. These plants as well as their blooms are fleshy and succulent. The begonia particularly has a slightly sour taste. These plants can be raised in green house or under trees and leaves where they will receive filtered sunlight of only about 30 per cent. They prefer a slight temperature of 24 to 28 degrees Centigrade. Use very rich but porous organic soil of their potting medium. Keep the medium moist all day. Remember not to drench heavily, for the leaves and stems are soft and can be damaged through excessive water. The retention of water in the leaves can also be harmful so mist lightly on the surface of the leaves.

Organic and slow released fertilizers can slowly be used together on the medium of these plants. Pellets of 14-14-14 or melted urea at a proportion of 1 tsp per gallon of water can also be given as an alternate. Apply fertilizers at a once a month interval. For safer application of plant food and pest control, weaken the dilute half its dosage. Since geraniums, violets and begonias are rather vulnerable plants, we suggest you sterilize the potting media by baking or heating the soil at a high temperature of 350 degrees of 30 minutes and apply a strong fungicide after cooking. Use the media one day after sterilization.

Suntan or iroxa flowers, rose and chrysanthemum petals, dahlia, dahlias and sampaguita can be made into tea for medicinal and refreshment purposes. This tea can also be mixed into punches and other concoctions. The bare flowers can also be used to make candies and other sweets. These flowering plants are hardy and are easy to take care besides they are also easy to propagate. They grow as shrubs or bushes and can tolerate full sun the whole day. Roses, suntan, sampaguita, are good as hedges or border plants, while dahlias, mums and dandelions grow well when potted. Use ordinary garden soil mixed with humus and other organic matter for potting medium. All these flowering plants are heavy feeders therefore they should be given organic fertilizers even 3 or 4 months together with time release or slow release fertilizer. Also a regular spraying of soluble complete fertilizer once a week will make the plants bloom faster. Aphids, millipedes, scale insects, caterpillars and thrips are their common enemies. To control them spray regularly (once a month with malathion or other similar insecticides). For sucking insects that are hard to control because of their thick body coverings such as stem borers, army worms and scales, use systemic insecticides Azodrin 168. If infestation is heavy, apply the chemical at a dosage of 1 tsp per gallon of water every 5 days for 5 consecutive times. Black spots, dry rots, soft rots, and other fungal and bacterial infections are present in the air and in the ground specially during rainy seasons. Apply phytosan of preventive measures and dithane and benlate for remedy or cure.

Why can't we accept help?

By Willie Ng

CRITICISM on the sluggish government reaction to

Invitation to a beheading?

LAST month we marked Rizal's birthday anniversary.

Last June 6, I got a copy of a Conference Committee Report on the Metro Manila problem. It may solve the latter's situation but create new ones for Rizal; June, 1990 also marks the 89th anniversary of a historic meeting that took place in the Pasig Catholic Church under the leadership of Don Juan Sumulong who put together what today the Report seeks to put as under.

Do we now undo his work? Do we have no sense of history whatever? What national benefit do we get by removing 12 towns from a first class premier province and downgrading it into a second class one? Without a capital. Without a capital.

We will vote on the Report when sessions resume in a few weeks. Meantime, I urge all concerned to ponder the implications of the formal dismemberment and beheading of our mother Province, with which I will be associated forever, as part of my "accomplishments."

I acknowledge the hard work behind the Report. Still, I am uncomfortable that the Senate President, a great son of Rizal, of all people, will preside over her formal liquidation. History may yet condemn us for formalizing her humiliation, a result I tried in vain to prevent as a Pasigueno, Razaleno and Filipino. We seem to be more impressed with what Mr Marcos did some 15 years than with what Don Juan Sumulong did 90 years ago.

Last June 1, former Sen Arturo Tolentino, a son of Angono, said that one reform he would like to see is giving a Conference Committee a deadline to complete its work. I see his point.

The bill before us has hibernated for nearly 21/2 years. Meantime, we have known more questions, but not their answers. Starling is the ratification, in the very title of the new bill itself, of E.O No 392, of Jan 9, 1990, something that the Congress therefore could not have considered in 1987-88 when it deliberated on it. I have a number of misgivings.

On March 29, 1988, there was a news report saying that "Cong. Sumulong said he was surprised that Senators who are from the old province of Rizal — Senate President Jovito Salonga and Senators Rene Saguisag and Neptali Gonzales — were only moving now after being "so notoriously silent about the return of the 12 former Rizal towns and the abolition of the MMC." Sec. 3 of H. No 40, of which he is the principal co-author, said that the 12 towns in question "shall be returned to the Province of Rizal..." Now he leads in the destruction of his father's work.

What made him reverse himself? With all due respect, one theory is that it is a reflection of the contemporary local power situation, not necessarily in the public interest. It may help assure the domination of a clan, Gerrymandering?

Let us talk of the procedure. On the PC-INP bill, I consulted with our colleagues as to the contexts of their concerns, for example. I protected these in Conference, within reason. Here, as one who grew up, lived, studied, and worked in Makati, Pasig and Manila, I am sorry to say that I was never meaningfully consulted by the conferees, if at all. I hope the Senate President was.

I had wanted the capital town to be retained that we may not so easily lose the glory that was Pasig and the grandeur that was Rizal. It would provide for a transition period at least before Rizal is cut loose. I consulted the people of Pasig and a majority did not seem to like my idea of a separate plebiscite for Pasig. I accepted this majoritarian consensus reached through dialogue.

When we remove 12 towns from any province, including some of the richest, do we feel guilty at all in formally downgrading a mother? What province in its right mind would agree to lose its capital and 11 other towns? In the Organic Acts, even tinkering with a barangay created howls of protests. Some future dictator may do it again and the succeeding democratic government would just accept it, based on what happened here, a precedent that could come back to haunt us.

3. The plebiscite provisions of the bill are tilted in favour of Metro Manila and against Rizal. The mother provinces of Rizal and Bulacan are to be discriminated against unduly in favour of their children, in-laws, cousins and friends. There will be an separate, second-class plebiscite in Rizal. That one would like to be independent and spread on wings is only natural, but not necessarily healthy if the mother would suffer due to abandonment and lack of support. We represent the entire nation, and therefore, we must afford justice to all.

The voters in the mother provinces are given a diluted right to vote. This is a violation of the one-man-one-vote doctrine.

In 1987, Rizal had 419,253 voters. As of 1989 it became 449,515. In the National Capital Region it was 4,420,786. It is now 4,509,545. Bulacan had 655,778. It is now 707,828. In Pasig we had 196,067. It is now 210,575.

Horse-mounted police eyed for QC Circle

QUEZON CITY may yet have its own version of the world-famous British horse-mounted police.

The QC mounted police, to be called "Mga Alagad ng Puting Bantayog ng Lungsod Quezon," was proposed yesterday by Councilor Herminio Bautista before the city council.

Bautista said he plans to have this special unit consisting of 12 policemen mounted on horses to patrol inside the Quezon Mental Circle.

Both policemen and horses will wear gaily-coloured clothing and equipment, he said in an interview. They will be mainly decorative he said.

Bautista said he was seeking P2.5 million for the project.

He said the mounted police patrol will be a big city attraction for local and foreign tourists. It is line with the city's growing reputation as an entertainment centre for the country, he said.

He said it would also mean added income for the city, because the horses can be rented out for public rides, to foreign tourists and for film and TV scenes.

The project would be assigned to the QC cultural and tourism affairs office, the city parks and playgrounds development office and the city police, he said.

Mining work at Benguet, Philex stops

A MAJOR Philippine gold and copper producer, (Philex Mining) said it has suspended operations at its mine in northern Benguet province because Monday's earthquake had cut off electric power in the area.

Philex chairman Henry Brimo told reporters the company faces daily losses of 4.9 mil pesos because of the suspension.

Benguet Corp., the country's biggest gold producer, also suspended work but gave no estimate of potential losses.



There is no way Rizal can prevail, even if all the voters there ask for the return of the prodigal children. What might happen here is that Rizal may vote overwhelmingly for their return. Let us assume a purely hypothetical case that a contiguous town such as Marikina or Pasig would vote to return and hope to be the capital of Rizal. This would count for absolutely nothing, knowing as we do beforehand the voting strengths in the areas concerned.

Jurisprudence teaches us that the mother province could not be ignored. Certainly Rizal is affected. It loses its capital. It loses its hall of justice. Perhaps, its Rizal High School, which is represented by three alumni in the Senate (Bobbit Sanchez could have been the fourth). It may require billions to replace those facilities and yet we will keep the mother out. There is no provision for compensation whatever.

I must be forgiven for my personal feelings here, having been elected, in 1987, as No 2 Senator in Rizal behind the Senate President, No 2 Senator in the National Capital Region behind Sen. Mercado. I was only No 4 in Bulacan behind Sen. Mercado, Salonga and Aquino but No 1 in Pasig.

Closer to the constitutional spirit is to have one joint, simultaneous vote including all the voters in the areas directly affected, the original idea of the authors of the House bill including its two representatives. Now, we will have two confusing, separate etc.

4. The possible emergence of charted cities, a vital aspect, is not mentioned in the title of the bill as a warning as to what we were doing. Indeed, the entire exercise is deceptive in that very little attention is given to what it will do to Rizal. All the focus is on Metro Manila. We do not casually create cities in a few words, as we seem to be doing here.

5. In our evolving conference committee procedures, it is not unknown that we ask resource persons to help. There are many questions. This bill seems to have no answers. The capital probably has to be moved elsewhere. Indeed, what happens to the Kapitolyo? In the Deed of Donation of January 25, 1949, between Ortigas, Madrigal Y. Cia and the Provincial Government of Rizal, the latter agreed that "it will use the lands hereby donated shall, upon such violation or change, *Ipsa Facto* revert to the Company...."

Our premier town in the premier province is now in limbo. Why not given it an option to become the capital city of Rizal say up to 2001 to give Rizal a transition period to adjust? Else, we shall witness the beheading of our mother province. On whose hand will her blood be? *Bahala na!*

Why are we punishing Rizal? Last year, a superhighway named after him was even given a new name. Must we continue bashing out second-class national hero?

mind to stay here when the going's so good in the States?

"Yes, I was happy there with my independence and all that and also very well on the financial side but, and it's a big but, I felt that over there, I'm likened to a robot that has to do things because it's your job. There, I considered that it's a job instead of my love, in fact, my first love. At least here, I do it because I love it and not because it's my job to do it. I may not have as much prestige here dancing the ballet but at least I am happy. It wasn't that way in the States. So I told myself I could not do this to myself anymore. It's not worth the sacrifice."

Since she arrived six months ago, Toni has been doing several things which she did not do in US.

"I am a person who likes several diversions. I get bored easily doing the same thing over and over again. Here, I've danced, I've taught in a free school in Daemarina, academic, not ballet because I really love working with kids. I have the ability to work with kids and share with them what I know and what I have. I've been guesting in several companies and one thing that really excites me is that I'm now a model. No, not in the ramp but in print. It's a different experience for me. I modelled for Landmark, and I got a kick out of it. Before, I used to hear from my friends, 'Hey! I saw your picture in the papers... you were dancing the ... But now it's different. They say, 'Hey, Toni! I saw your picture in the papers, you were modelling a... I get thrilled hearing that."

What kind of a man would qualify as one she'd like to marry? "First of all he must be patient and must understand my love for dancing for I intend to dance even when I'm already married. He should make me feel worth fighting and waiting for. Dancing is what I love to do and he should not take it away from me. But when I get married I really intend to stay married and would do my best to work at it. If two people understand each other and work together in keeping their marriage intact, I don't see any reason why the marriage will not succeed."

What made her change her

From the provinces

FORT SAN FELIPE, Cavite City

Navy chief Rear Admiral Mariano J. Dumanas Jr urged the officers and men of the navy to participate actively in the discussion of the issues that confront the growth and development of the navy, particularly its modernisation efforts.

Speaking at the 29th graduation rites of the Naval Command and Staff Course (NCSC) at the Naval Training Command here, Dumanas said it is imperative for every navy personnel to support the command's efforts to develop awareness by the people and government leaders on the importance of protecting the country's marine resources and sovereignty through a modernised navy.

He said that it is high time that the navy gets full supports for its modernisation efforts so that it could protect the country's 200-mile exclusive economic zone.

He stressed, however, that the modernisation plan involves not only the improvement of the physical assets but also the professionalisation of the naval service through curriculum development.

Dumanas lauded the Naval Training Command under Capt Danilo Avellanosa and Capt Romeo Villanueva, Naval Officer School Centre superintendent, for their outstanding performance in the efforts to upgrade professionalism in the navy.

MANILA: Twenty-six media organisations condemned the fatal mauling of a crusading community journalist in Isabela by agents of the Land Transportation Office and their subsequent attempt to cover up the incident.

Reynaldo "Catindig" Catindig, publisher-editor of the North Sierra Madre Express, died of a heart attack while reportedly being dealt with fistblows and a pair of pliers by four members of the LTO's law enforcement squad in Tumauini town, Isabela last May 15.

Reports reaching Manila said the 54-year-old newsman was taking pictures of the LTO men in the act of multiciling tricycle drivers when he was mauled.

Led by the Katipunan ng mga Mamamahayag Pangkommunidad sa Pilipinas, the National Union of Journalists and the Kapisanan ng mga Mangangawa ng Media sa Pilipinas, the working press groups deplored what they called an "attempted coverup of the actual circumstances of Catindig's death."

Autopsy findings by the National Bureau of Investigation reporting bruises and contusions on Catindig's body reportedly conflicted with a local police report that sought to project a natural cause of death.

Earlier, the Philippine Movement for Press Freedom wired Transport and Communication Secretary Oscar Orbos pressing for an immediate DOTC probe into the incident.

Catindig was the 25th newsman to die in the last four years since the EDSA people power revolution.

Deploying the attempted coverup, a joint statement issued by the 26 organisations pointed out that Catindig's assailants continue to roam the streets of Isabela "apparently without fear of arrest and retribution."

MANILA: Leaders of the House of Representatives said the chamber should probe deeper into the possible involvement of other lawmakers in the gun smuggling case of convicted Rep. Nicomedes Guzman Jr (LDP, Nueva Ecija).

They lauded Speaker Ramon V. Mitra's call for De Guzman to always keep the zoo in good condition, he has caused the painting of the railings, walls, animal cages, and the administration building.

He said that two comfort stations have been repaired and painted and two more will be rehabilitated. His will be done through donations of civic groups.

As far as the care of the animals is concerned, Boton said that with the strict supervision by veterinarians and zoologists, the animals are kept healthy as they are fed with proper quality animal food.

He added that despite the increases in animal food prices and in the number of animals in the zoo, he has been able to maintain the cost of feeds at the 1986 levels.

Boton said that while the zoo is the smallest in Asia, it has been able to provide wholesome recreation to over 1.6 million visitors yearly.

He also said that due to the strict administrative supervision, the daily gate receipts have been increasing.

Boton said that upon the assumption to office of Mayor Lopez, Toni has been doing several things which she did not do in US.

"I am a person who likes several diversions. I get bored easily doing the same thing over and over again. Here, I've danced, I've taught in a free school in Daemarina, academic, not ballet because I really love working with kids. I have the ability to work with kids and share with them what I know and what I have. I've been guesting in several companies and one thing that really excites me is that I'm now a model. No, not in the ramp but in print. It's a different experience for me. I modelled for Landmark, and I got a kick out of it. Before, I used to hear from my friends, 'Hey! I saw your picture in the papers... you were dancing the ... But now it's different. They say, 'Hey, Toni! I saw your picture in the papers, you were modelling a... I get thrilled hearing that."

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The order prohibits any government official from receiving Taiwanese visitors here.

SAMPALOC, Quezon: A prominent businessman and sportsman here deplored the alleged "premial" bad roads starting from Luisiana town in Laguna to the towns of Lukban, Sampaloc, and Mauban in Quezon province.

who only let me down.

"They even chose a lawyer who is weak and let me down," said De Guzman and has fired the counsel and replaced him with Dean Antonio Coronel.

SAN FERNANDO, La Union: A combined team of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and Economic Intelligence Investigation Bureau have seized some 1.3 million board feet reportedly illegally cut logs valued at P12.5 million while these were about to be unloaded at the seaport here.

This developed as the regional office of the DENR deployed strike forces to the provinces in the Ilocos Region to go after scrupulous business using the region as dumping site for illegally cut logs and lumber believed to have been purchased under highly questionable means.

Region 1 technical director for forestry Antonio Principe said the seizure came in the wake of reports that enterprising lumber suppliers were defying the provisions of their contracts with the DENR by diverting their supply to other buyers.

The diversion, Principe said, might cause artificial shortage of lumber supply in Metro Manila and subsequent increase in their prices because Ilocos Region has practically cornered the bulk of the procured lumber.

EIB Region 1 Director Felicismo Alano said the logs were reportedly owned by a Chinese saw mill operator in Dagupan City who was identified as George Chan.

Quoting reports of Teofilo Legaspi, head of the EIB intelligence division, Amano said preventative seizure order was served on Chan immediately after the raid was conducted.

Earlier, the Philippine Movement for Press Freedom wired Transport and Communication Secretary Oscar Orbos pressing for an immediate DOTC probe into the incident.

Catindig was the 25th newsman to die in the last four years since the EDSA people power revolution.

Initial results of the investigation showed that the lumber came from Baler, Aurora.

PARANAQUE: Seven persons were wounded in two violent incidents — an armored van ambush and a gunbattle between suspected gunrunners and PC Capital Regional Command (Capcom) soldiers.

Both incidents took place in Paranaque, Metro Manila.

At about 10 am, three bank employees were wounded when five heavily armed men ambushed an armoured van of the China Banking Corp. in Valley II subdivision on Sucat Road.

Wounded were Enrique Pante, 54, teller; Lorenzo Molo, 32, and Aquino Daguo, both security guards.

The group was on its way to Makati to get cash.

The attackers fled with the guards' shotguns on board a white Toyota Corolla.

Some 30 minutes later, four persons were wounded when a group of Capcom soldiers traded shots with suspected gunrunners in Evacoma subdivision, also in Paranaque.

Wounded were Sgt Leodito Guto of the Paranaque police; Dalmacio de la Cruz, Jerry Barroga, 20, and Feliciano Gajio, 45, all bystanders.

The Capcom soldiers were conducting surveillance on Durian St when a suspected gunrunner arrived. The Capcom soldiers were fired upon by the suspect who was later re-enforced by several armed men aboard two cars.

During a brief chase, the armed men chanced upon a Paranaque mobile patrol car which they also fired upon, thinking that it was a blocking force of the Capcom. This resulted in the wounding of Guto.

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Spaniards, Soviets in semifinals

ATLANTA, July 28. (Reuter): Spain, pointing towards a chance to avenge last year's defeat by the United States in the final of the Federation Cup women's tennis tournament, beat France yesterday to reach the semifinals against the Soviet Union, who beat a game Dutch team to advance.

Arantxa Sanchez Vicario and Conchita Martinez swept through their singles matches in straight sets and then teamed up for an easy doubles victory to give second-seeded Spain a 3-0 quarterfinal win over fifth-seeded France in the Federation Cup, the women's equivalent of the Davis Cup.

The fourth-seeded Soviets, meanwhile, were having a tougher time getting past the Netherlands, needing a victory in the doubles to earn a 2-1 win after splitting their singles duels.

Today's other semifinal was to pit the top-seeded, defending champion US team against third-seeded Austria, meaning the top four seeds are the last four teams remaining.

Sanchez, ranked seventh in the world, said she got off to such a good start against Nathalie Tauziat that her concentration wavered. "I was winning so easily I lost my concentration," she said.

She failed to convert two set points and suddenly the 16th-ranked French player had drawn even at 5-5. But then Sanchez began playing well again and took the tiebreaker 11-9, saving three set points and winning on her own fifth set point of the match.

Tauziat said that when she lost the set, "I lost all my confidence," and with Sanchez playing at her top form again, the result was an easy 6-1 second set.

Earlier, 10th-ranked Martinez beat 33rd-rated Julie Halard 6-0 6-3; "I played very well today," Martinez said. "She made all the mistakes."

Halard agreed, saying: "She doesn't make any errors."

Meanwhile, the Dutch, who knocked out eighth-seeded West Germany on Thursday and were the only unseeded team remaining in the tournament, took a 1-0 lead over the fourth-seeded Soviet Union when hard-hitting Brenda Schulz pulled out a 6-7 (1-7) 6-4 6-3 victory over Leila Meskhi in two hours, 15 minutes in Georgia's hot midday sun.

Beaten

Schulz dropped the first two games of the final set before climbing back into the match by getting her boomerang serve on target. It was the first time in four meetings that the 50th-ranked Schulz had beaten Meskhi, who is 25 places ahead of her in the rankings.

The Soviet Union drew even when 12th-ranked Natalia Zvereva defeated Manon Bollegraf, ranked 29th, 6-1 6-3.

That set up the decisive doubles in which Schulz and Bollegraf, in only their second time playing together, tried to beat Zvereva and Larisa Savchenko, the number two doubles team in the world.

It didn't happen, but the Soviet pair had to eke out a 9-7 tiebreaker in the first set before cruising home with a 6-3 second set.

"I think we were a little bit unlucky in the tiebreaker," Schulz said. "We were so close."

Viola helps Mets demolish Cardinals

NEW YORK, July 28. (AP): Frank Viola won his National League-leading 14th baseball game and the New York Mets scored early and often last night, crushing the St Louis Cardinals 10-1 at home to take over first place in the East.

Dave Magadan got three hits



Chang keeps his eye on the ball while reaching for a volley. (Reuter wirephoto)

McEnroe loses to Sampras

Chang tames Agassi

TORONTO, July 28. (Reuter): Michael Chang hobbled off court with his 4-6 7-5 7-5 first win over Andre Agassi and a nauseated John McEnroe lost to Pete Sampras 7-6 (7-4) 4-6 6-3 in the quarterfinals of the \$1.2 million Canadian Open Tennis Championships yesterday.

The seventh-seeded Chang, fighting off cramps, outlasted the top-seeded Agassi in a two hour 10 minute duel in intense 104-degree Fahrenheit (40 Celsius) temperatures.

"I feel great," Chang said, two hours after the match, of his first victory over Agassi. "My mind feels great, but my body says where's the bed."

In today's semifinal Chang was to take on the fifth-seeded Sampras. The other semifinal was to pit fourth-seeded Jay Berger against unseeded Jakob Hlasek.

The Agassi-Chang match seemed headed for an instant replay of their previous meetings, with the fourth-ranked Agassi crippling Chang with every advance.

Although Chang did come up lame, it wasn't Agassi doing the dirty deed, but his own body. Chang's mental strength was tougher than his physique.

"It was way too late in the match for the cramps to make a difference," Agassi said. "If it was three-out-of-five, we would have had to dial 911 (the police emergency number) for him."

Until 6-4 5-4 with a break, Agassi was the stern taskmaster, grilling Chang mercilessly. Not only was Agassi, a known baseliner, beating Chang from the backcourt, his serve-and-volley game was winning points, too.

Chang, however, is a workhorse. Basically, he will stay out there until he drops.

After taking the second set, Chang went ahead 4-1 in the third. Agassi broke in the seventh game when Chang sailed a backhand crosscourt wide.

The cramps started when Chang went ahead 0-30 on Agassi's serve in the last game. Chang pushed them away long enough to let Agassi falter by hitting a forehand crosscourt wide at 15-40 to end the match.

The 12th-ranked McEnroe was perturbed he gave Sampras the match.

Sampras, 18, is definitely a contender — even McEnroe says so — but yesterday's match was a present from the legendary McEnroe.

"I go into these states of horrendous serving," McEnroe said. "I feel like throwing up after each toes. I just go around beating myself."

To prove McEnroe was right, the 19th-ranked Sampras had 17 break opportunities in the match and only converted two. The opportunity in the eighth game of the final set with a backhand crosscourt volley.

"He won 80 per cent of the biggest points, but I probably won the biggest one," Sampras said.

De Leon loses crown

Douglas feeling better

CAPO D'ORLANDO, Sicily, July 28. (Reuter): Carlos de Leon of Puerto Rico lost his World Boxing Council cruiserweight title in disgrace yesterday when he was disqualified for punching Italian challenger Massimiliano Duran after the bell.

De Leon, who came to Sicily with a daunting 44 victories in a 16-year professional career, hit the relatively inexperienced Italian in the mouth after the bell for the 11th, penultimate round, sounded.

Shoes, cans, bottles and hundreds of sticks of spaghetti were flung into the ring by a furious partisan crowd and seconds later the WBC fight supervisor announced the 31-year-old champion was disqualified.

De Leon threw his late punch after earlier having pushed Duran to the canvas after landing a jab. The 26-year-old Italian was given a count, but rose quickly to his feet, protesting in vain.

Duran cornered the Puerto Rican on the ropes in rounds four and six, and after being pushed to the canvas in the 11th, responded with a furious volley of punches.

After the referee separated the two at the bell, De Leon turned and lashed out at the Italian, hitting him in the mouth.

After hurried consultations with the fight judges, referee and the managers of the two boxers, the WBC supervisor disqualified De Leon and awarded the fight to Duran.

■ Heavyweight champion James "Buster" Douglas, one day after receiving the five-week postponement he sought for his first title defense against Evander Holyfield, yesterday reported improvement in his bronchitis.

"He's feeling better today," Douglas' manager, John Johnson, said yesterday. "He has missed training time due to a lot of different reasons but he thinks he'll be ready to train Monday."

Hours before the Holyfield camp agreed to push the fight back from Sept 21 to Oct 25, Thursday, Johnson said: "All I care about is James Douglas the person and he belongs in the hospital."

Douglas' physician said hospitalization was unnecessary but the champion should not consider fighting until at least the end of October and should not train until Aug 6.

■ Although former heavyweight champion Larry Holmes never squared off in the boxing ring against fellow ex-champ Floyd Patterson, he intends to take him on — in court.



James 'Buster' Douglas.

Holmes sued Patterson, Patterson's business partner and the promotion company that set up Holmes' June 23 fight in Binghamton, New York, saying they failed to pay him in full for the bout against Terry "Lawman" Anderson.

Former world heavyweight champion George Foreman will meet Walter Masseroni of Italy in a 12-round non-title fight in Nairobi Oct 20, promoters announced yesterday in the Kenyan capital.

Bekki Hussein, of Exchequer Sports Promotion Incorporated, organisers of the fight, told journalists a team of five officials would fly into Nairobi tomorrow to finalise details of the match.

This will be Foreman's second fight on African soil. In 1975 he fought and lost to Mohammed Ali in Kinshasa, the capital of Zaire.

The Mets lead the Pirates by one game.

Viola (14-5) is second in the major leagues in victories to Bob Welch's 16. He allowed three hits, struck out four and walked one. Kevin Brown made his major league debut and got the final three-outs, finishing the three-hitter.

Cube 2, Expos 0

Pinch-hitter Gary Varsho's run-scoring single broke a scoreless tie with two outs in the 10th inning and Greg Maddux allowed two hits in nine innings as Chicago beat the Expos.

Maddux (7-9) won his third straight start after going winless in his previous 13, and helped the Cubs snap a three-game losing streak. Bill Long pitched the 10th for his third save.

Shawn Dunston drew a one-out walk from reliever Bill Sampson (8-3) to begin the game-winning rally. Dunston stole second and one out later, scored on Varsho's single to left field. Dave Clark singled before Ryne Sandberg broke an 0-for-17 slump with a single to score Varsho.

Padree 8, Astros 2

Andy Benes allowed two runs in 6 2-3 innings to earn his first victory in seven weeks as the Padres beat Houston for its fifth straight victory.

Benes (7-7) allowed eight hits in making his first start since July 17. The right-hander, winless in his previous eight starts, had

and drove in four runs in the first three innings as the Mets took a 10-1 lead. Cardinals centre fielder Milt Thompson contributed, misjudging Daryl Boston's fly ball into a two-run triple that capped a five-run first and misplaying Magadan's line drive into a bases-loaded triple in the third.

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Biasion tightens rally lead

BUENOS AIRES, July 28. (UPI): For the third straight day, Italian driver Massimo Biasion and navigator Tiziano Siviero raced over rugged terrain to victory, tightening their lead in the annual Argentine auto rally.

Spaniards Carlos Sainz and Luis Moya had to make up almost seven and a half minutes on the final day of competition today to overtake the Italian leaders in the race in Cordoba, located 465 miles (750 km) northeast of Buenos Aires in the Andean foothills.

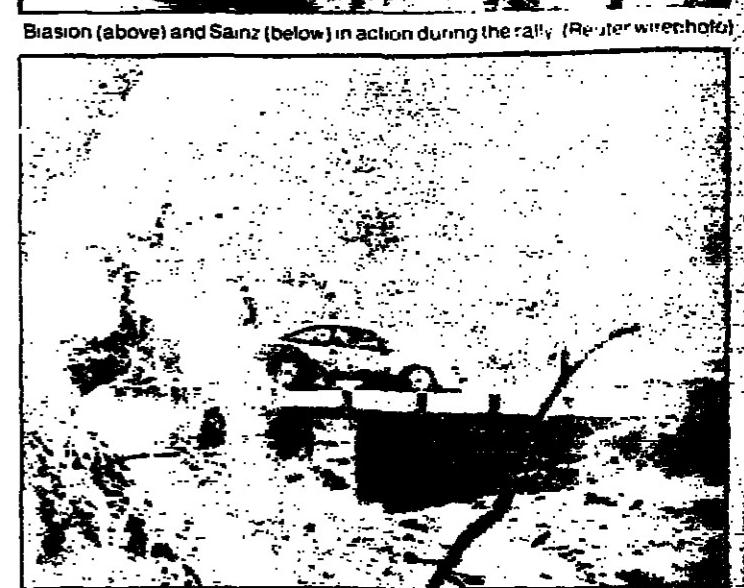
Europeans controlled the top five overall positions in the race after yesterday's run, with the French pair of Didier Auriol and Bernardo Occelli in third place, West Germans Rudolf Stohl and Reinhard Kaufmann in fourth and Frenchmen Alain Prost Orielle and Michel Roissard in fifth.

The rally, now in its eleventh year, is the eighth event in the world racing season. Prior to the race, which carries points for the world championship, Sainz and Moya led in overall points. Biasion and Siviero were in third place world-wide before the Argentine race.

Car makers, as well as pilots, accumulate rally points. Lancia, the world champion among rally car makers for the past four years, got off to a strong start on Wednesday when four of the top five finishers were driving their autos.

But Lancia team leaders, defending world champions Jutta Kanckonen and navigator Juha Kankkonen, were forced to drop out of the competition Thursday with a broken gear shift, and yesterday only three of the top ten finishers drove Lancia cars.

Another Lancia pilot in bad luck was Carlos Facundo Menem, 22, son of Argentine President Carlos Menem, who dropped out



Thursday citing mechanical problems. In 1986, President Menem drove a Renault 18 GTI in the race when he was governor of La Rioja.

The fourth and final stage, set for today, was to include seven primers or speed tests measuring 85.8 miles (138.15 km) in distance over dry, often steep roads.

The rally's ten leaders after yesterday's race are as follows:

1. Biasion-Siviero, Italy, Lancia Delta Int., 5.21.47; 2. Sainz-Moya, Spain, Toyota Celica GT4, 5.39.18; 3. Auriol-Occelli, France, Lancia Delta Int., 5.56.17; 4. Stohl-Kaufmann, Germany, Audi Quattro 90, 6.10.07; 5. Orielle-Roissard, France, Renault 5 Turbo, 6.13.29; 6. Soto-Bueno, Argentina, Lancia Delta Int., 6.12.52; 7. Raúl González, Argentina, Renault 18 GTK, 6.42.14; 8. Martín Volta, Argentina, Fiat Regata 85, 6.47.22; 9. Maccari-Ostasch, Argentina, Renault 18 GTK, 6.49.55; 10. Chali-García, Argentina, Renault 18 GTK, 6.54.14.

Ertl takes 2-shot lead over Jones

BETHESDA, Maryland, July 28. (Reuter): Eight-year LPGA member Sue Ertl led after two rounds of the LPGA Championship, a tournament officiated by first \$1 million purse in the association's history.

She recorded a four-under-par round of 67 on the challenging 6,246-yard Bethesda Country Club in Bethesda, Maryland. She had a two-stroke lead over Rosie Jones, who recorded a one-under-par round of 70.

Tied for third place at two-under were Cindy Figg-Currier and Cathy Johnston who recorded 68 and 70, respectively. Chris Johnson, who was the first-round leader, struggled to a six-over-par of 77 yesterday and was at two-over-par for the tournament.

Jones was on fire earlier in her round and at one time had a five-stroke lead over Figg-Currier and Cathy Johnston. She had made five birdies giving her a tournament total of seven-under and a nice cushion.

"I was feeling so good," said Jones. "I was feeling really lucky."

Until the long and treacherous par-3 16th, Jones was feeling good. On the 195-yard hole, Jones hit a 4-wood into the greens bunker on the right. Her lie was rather bare in the sand and she kicked it into another bunker over the green. This time her ball was up against the lip. "I knew I would either skull it over the green again or hit it short," she said.

Karpov opens gap at top

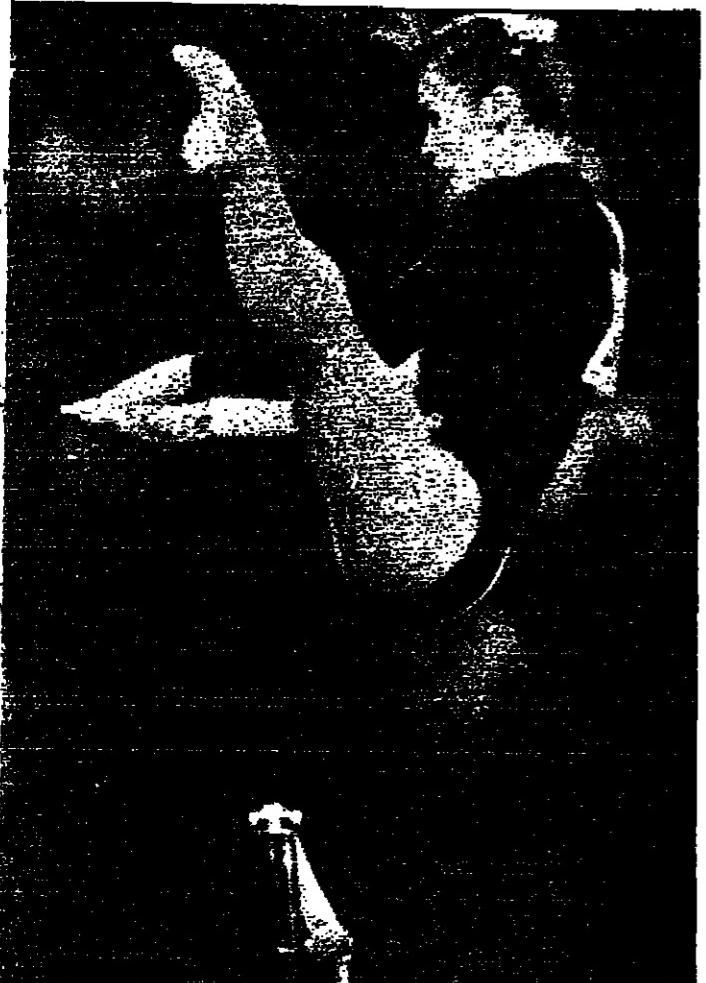
BIENNE, Switzerland, July 28. (AP): Anatoly Karpov widened his lead in the International Grandmasters Chess Tournament with a win over US player Nick de Firmian yesterday.

Like De Firmian, Matthias Wahls, a 21-year-old West German talent, was handed his first defeat. Anthony Miles of the United States beat Wahls, playing black, in 33 moves.

Vlastimil Hort reached an unchallenged interim second place at the 14-round tournament's halfway mark after agreeing to a 27-move draw with Soviet Lev Polugayevsky.

Results

Anatoly Karpov, Soviet Union — Nick de Firmian, United States, 1-0; Anthony Miles, United States, 1-0; Matthias Wahls, West Germany, 1-0; Vlastimil Hort, West Germany; Lev Polugayevsky, Soviet Union, 0-5; Joel Lautier, France — Ulf Andersson, Sweden, adjourned.



Boginskaya sails over the top of the uneven bars. (Reuter wirephoto)



Spain's Silvia Martinez competes on the vault during the Goodwill Games' gymnastics event. (Reuter wirephoto)

W. Germany lift dressage title

STOCKHOLM, Sweden, July 28. (AP) West Germany's dressage team, led by Nicole Uphoff on Rembrandt, won its fifth straight world title at the World Equestrian Games yesterday.

Regarded as virtually invincible, the West German quarter's winning score was 4,389 points. The Soviet Union was second, 265 points behind. A half dozen nations had a two-day tussle for the bronze, which finally went to Switzerland.

In the vaulting, gymnastics on horseback, the United States became the first non-European team to win a medal by finishing third. Switzerland defended its 1988 world title ahead of West Germany.

West Germany swept the individual competitions. Reigning champion Christoph Lensing lost the men's title by a fraction of a point to Michael Lehner, the runner-up in 1988.

AI Nuzha sweep aside Hatid Ligaya

AL NUZHA GARAGE, who drew a "bye" on the last round, scored a sweep of Hatid Ligaya Door to Door to post an insurmountable lead after the penultimate round of the ongoing Inter-Commercial Team Chess Tournament, organised by the Filipino Chess Club in Kuwait (Filcheck) held at the Kabayan Restaurant on Friday.

Group A blitz king Ingemar Vendiola of the carmakers registered an unprecedented six straight wins at the expense of Mon Cortado to capture the Board 1 gold medal honour.

Default-laden JM International gave Al Rashed Freight's title bid a stunning blow when newcomers Alex Dampit and Arthur Librea scored upset wins against Bernard de los Reyes and Hermie Corpuz on Boards 3 and 4 respectively. Freight Movers' Nanding Polycarpio and Robert Vargas won by default over their respective rivals on Board 1 and 4.

Kirby Building Systems, who came 45 minutes late, lost

by default against FEB/City Int'l. As per tournament rules default is 30 minutes from official starting time.

Three teams are now fighting it out for the second place namely: Al Rashed, Kabayan and City International. The seventh and final round



Ingemar Vendiola: takes Board 1 honours

which will fit Al Rashed with City Int'l, will be played on Friday, Aug 3 1990 at 9:00 am at the Kabayan Restaurant.

Ties in the team and Board standing will be broken down as follows: 1) winner over the other, 2) more wins with black pieces, 3) another game.

Final round schedule:

Friday, Aug 3, 9:00 am, Kabayan Restaurant (White vs Black); Kirby vs Hatid Ligaya, Al Rashed vs City Int'l, Kabayan vs JM International, Al Nuzha - bye.

Standings

	P	W	D	L	T
Al Nuzha	4	18	6	18	0
Al Rashed	4	12	0	7	12.0
Kabayan	4	12	1	7	12.5
For East Bank	4	12	1	7	12.5
Hatid Ligaya	4	7	1	12	7.5
JM Int'l	4	5	0	15	5.0
Kirby	4	4	1	15	4.5

Current leaders in the board honour standings:

Board 1: Ingemar Vendiola, Al Nuzha; 6; Nanding Polycarpio, Al Rashed; 4; Jun Pacana, Kabayan; 3; Thomy Montreal, City Int'l; 3.

Board 2: Robert Vargas, Al Rashed; 3; Sammy Aurelano, Kabayan; 3; Edwin Borigas, Kirby; 3; Danny Calasin, Al Nuzha; 3.

Board 3: Gil Opiana Jr., Kabayan; 4; Jigs Acodisen, City Int'l; 4; Fred de Nava, Al Nuzha; 4.

Board 4: Hermi Corpuz, Al Rashed; 4; Felix Sillo, Al Nuzha; 4; Nilo Magtangob, Hatid Ligaya; 3.

Australia win close match

DUNEDIN, New Zealand, July 28. (Reuter) Australia relied on accurate goal kicking from fly-half Michael Lynagh to beat Otago 24-20 today in another unconvincing performance on their demanding rugby union tour of New Zealand.

Both teams scored two tries, but Lynagh's 16 points from goal kicks made the difference.

The Australians controlled possession, especially from line-outs, in the first 20 minutes of the match, but then their concentration fell away. Backs and forwards were guilty of handling errors at crucial times.

They faced speedy Otago flankers in All Black Mike Brewer and former All Black Paul Henderson, who were often first to break play. Otago lacked pace in the backline required to capitalise on this second-phase possession.

Australian captain Nick Farr-Jones left the field injured just before half time, but did not appear badly hurt.

Australian coach Bob Dwyer described his team's performance as mixed, with only one week until the second test against the world champion All Blacks.



Gardner poses with a Honda's campaign girl (Reuter wirephotos)



Doohan in action during the practice. (Reuter wirephoto)



Doohan in action during the race. (Reuter wirephoto)

Soviet women win gymnastics team gold

US beat Brazil for basketball final



Sweden's Mats Kistrom (top) sends Czechoslovakia's Ladislav Lubina tumbling during an ice hockey game. (Reuter wirephoto)



Mexico's 2nd baseman Jorge Luis Soto lands on the head of Japan's Hiroshi Naranara forcing out the latter in the 2nd inning of their Goodwill Games' baseball match yesterday. (Reuter wirephoto)

Judge rules 1929 Bentley 'Old No. 1'

LONDON, July 28. (Reuter) A British judge ruled yesterday that a vintage Bentley racing car was an authentic Le Mans winner and told its new owners they could not recoup the £10 million (\$18 million) they paid for it.

The case centred on whether the 1929 Speed Six Bentley, known as "Old No. 1," was the original car which roared to two victories at the Le Mans endurance race in 1929 and 1930 or whether it had been rebuilt to the extent that it was no longer genuine.

Justice Philip Ottewell, announcing his verdict after a 12-day High Court case, said:

"There is no other Bentley, extinct or extant, which could legitimately lay claim to the title of Old No. 1 — or its reputation."

The 2-ton Bentley was recently sold by its flamboyant owner Edward Hubbard to the British company Middlebridge on the understanding it was the same car which won at Le Mans and later crashed at Brooklands racetracks in southeast England in 1932.

Middlebridge said it had been promised the real thing and claimed the car had been completely rebuilt after the Brooklands accident and was worth no more than £250,000 (\$452,900).

Judge Ottewell was clearly smitten by the gleaming Bentley. He told the court: "It looked beautiful and the magic and sheer power of its engine evoked excitement and nostalgic memories of the past."

Marseille triumph

PARIS, July 28. (Reuter) Yugoslav international Dragan Stojkovic was the outstanding player yesterday as French soccer champions Marseille defeated Metz 2-0.

Both Marseille goals followed fouls on Stojkovic, bought from Red Star Belgrade during the close season for a French record \$8.85 million.

Scored

Metz defender Albert Cartier scored with an own goal following a Stojkovic free kick after only five minutes.

Then striker Jean-Pierre Papin scored from the penalty spot in the 65th minute after the Yugoslav midfielder was brought down by Metz keeper Philippe Schutte.

Marseille were without their other two foreign stars, Brazilian Carlos Mozer and Briton Chris Waddle, who are both expected to play in next week's game against Caen.



Gooch continues to transform England's cricket fortunes

LONDON, July 28. (Reuters): Graham Gooch, epitome of the English professional cricketer, continued yesterday to transform his country's fortunes with the sixth highest ever Test match score.

The 37-year-old England captain scored 333 against India in the first Test at Lord's, only 32 short of Sir Garfield Sobers' world record.

"It's nice to get 300," Gooch said with typical understatement.

"I was a bit nervous in the 290s because I didn't want to make a mistake. It's probably the only chance I shall ever have of making 300."

"I played better yesterday (Thursday) but there were a lot of runs to be had with their field spread out."

A year ago both Gooch and England were in the cricketing doldrums, unable to come to terms with the masterly Australian swing bowler Terry Alderman, and with the unappealing prospect of a West Indies tour to follow.

Gooch could not read Alderman's late swing and England could not cope with the Australians, who won the Ashes series 4-0.

Nobody would have been surprised if Gooch had opted out of the Caribbean visit and elected instead to join the England rebel tour of South Africa.

He had already chosen South African money by captaining the 1982 England rebel side and served a three-year ban from Test cricket.

Returning from exile, Gooch endured a

miserable tour of the West Indies in 1986, bounded by the hostile West Indies fast bowlers and demonstrators angry at his South African connection.

He had to be persuaded not to return home before the fifth and final Test and the following year he decided not to tour Australia.

When David Gower was sacked last

year as England captain, Gooch decided to accept the challenge of leading his country against the world's toughest team on their own territory.

Working closely with manager Micky Stewart, another down-to-earth Londoner, Gooch moulded a team in his own hard-working undemonstrative image.

England shocked the cricketing world

by winning the first Test but were then to lose their captain and inspiration with a broken finger.

They lost the series 2-1 but bounced back to beat a useful New Zealand side 1-0 this year.

Gooch scored 154 to set up England's third Test victory and his batting this year has continued to reach new heights.

Herbert to meet Benjie in final

TOP SEED Herbert Mendoza defeated a determined Rolly Rodriguez in the semifinals on Friday 6-1, 7-5 in the Filipino Tennis tournament before a partisan crowd mostly from Kremenco. Herbert lost some steam in the second set that Rolly capitalized on by forging ahead at 3-0. Herbert finally caught up with him when Rolly committed several errors with long balls and never looked back after 5 all.

In class B, Jun Dianito reached the finals when he beat Rod Doliente 7-6 6-7-6-3. It was a big upset for Rod, who had 2 match-points at 5-1 in the second set and another match-point at 5-4 but Jun survived the tie-break and eventually took the third set and the match after 2 and a half hours of play. George Opinaldo is the other finalist. He outclassed Romeo Mercado in the semifinals 7-5 6-0.

In class C, Homer Babalo will face Bebot Clemente in the finals. Homer beat Arnold San Diego 6-3, 6-4, while Bebot defeated Nick Villar 6-4, 7-5.

In doubles, Benjie Aldecoa, Surley Lago reached the finals when they beat Chito Lumaya/George Opinaldo 6-4, 6-1 during Friday's semifinal match. They will face Herbert Mendoza/Nards Cruz in the finals as the latter won by default over Mando de la Cruz/Willy Maranan.

Evelyn Cabrera is the first champion of the tournament. Evelyn beat Janette Hernandez 9-3 in the ladies consolation round finals. Roger Alangre became a champ when he overpowered Freddy Paguyo 9-6 in the finals of the class C consolation round.

Consolation

Results of the quarterfinals matches on Thursday: Herbert Mendoza beat Rene Uicot 6-1, 6-0. Rolly Rodriguez beat Floro Pentejete 7-6, 6-2 while Nards Cruz defeated Mando de la Cruz 6-2, 6-1. Willy Maranan overcame Rolly Quider 9-4 to earn a final slot in the consolation round of the class A division.

The schedule of the final matches are as follows: Thursday 5-6 J. Salvador vs W. Maranan for the class A consolation round. R. Tabuada vs N. Ruiz for class B consolation round. 6-7 Sally Rioja vs Flora Nagales for the ladies finals. H. Babalo vs B. Clemente for the class C finals. 7-8 G. Opinaldo vs J. Dianito and Lancashire's Steve O'Shaughnessy in the class B finals. H. Mendoza/N. Cruz vs B. Aldecoa/S. Lago in the doubles finals. On Friday, August 3, 6 pm men's singles final class A, H. Mendoza vs B. Aldecoa. Awarding and Players Night follows after the finals at the poolside of Holiday Inn Crowne Plaza Hotel.

This tournament is organised by Kay and Associates Tennis Club. The principal sponsors are National Bank of Kuwait SAK, Kuwait Tourism and Shipping Co., Al Rashid Freight and Holiday Inn Crowne Plaza Hotel, in co-operation with City International Exchange/Far East Bank. Mabuhay Restaurant and Saloon and Canada Dry, the official softdrink of the tournament. Donors are Mahalika Novelty, Arlein's Handicrafts, Air France and Trendwave Shop.

Positive test

SYDNEY, July 28. (Reuters): Scott Wilson, an Australian rugby league player sacked by South Sydney last month after testing positive for cocaine, was dismissed by his new club North Sydney today following another positive drug test.

Azharuddin, Shastri hit tons

India need 78 runs to avoid follow-on

LONDON, July 28. (Reuters): Centuries from captain Mohammad Azharuddin and opener Ravi Shastri today gave India heart and also hope of avoiding the follow-on in the first Test against England at Lord's.

Azharuddin looked to have something to prove as he displayed his full range of attacking shots to reach his hundred off just 77 balls in 130 minutes.



John Morris (right) is about to catch Sidhu off Fraser. (Reuter wirephoto)

He was unbeaten on 117 at the close, having hit 20 fours in his century as he smashed the English bowling around the ground and helped take his side closer to safety.

India, who began the third day 48 without loss in reply to England's massive score of 653 for four declared, were 376 for six at the close, still needing 78 to avoid the follow-on.

Shastri was out for exactly

100, his third century in nine outings as a Test opener. His innings lasted just over four hours and included 12 fours and one huge six.

At one point he thrashed off-spinner Eddie Hemmings for 14 in one over but the bowler had his revenge when Shastri mishit an attempted lofted drive to Graham Gooch at mid-on.

Azharuddin replaced Shastri with the score 191 for three and shared a partnership of 50 with Dilip Vengsarkar for the fourth wicket.

Vengsarkar, chasing a record fourth successive Test century at Lord's reached 52 before edging a catch to wicketkeeper Jack Russell to give seamer Angus Fraser his second victim of the innings.

Navjot Sidhu had earlier fallen to Fraser for 30 while Gooch, fresh from his destruction of India's bowlers on the first two days, took the wicket of the prolific Sanjay Manjrekar, caught behind by Russell for 18 with the score on 102.

Scoreboard

ENGLAND first innings	65*	w/c
declared (G. Gooch 333, A. Morris 139, R. Smith 100 not out).		
INDIA first innings (overnight 151, w/no wicket)		
R. Shastri c Gooch b Hemmings 14, N. Sidhu c Morris b Fraser 10, S. Manjrekar c Russell b Gooch 13, D. Vengsarkar c Russell b Fraser 52, M. Azharuddin not out 117, S. Tendulkar b Lewis 10, M. Prabhakar c Lewis b Malcolm 25, Kapil Dev not out 14, Extras (lb-1, w-4, nb-5) 10, Total (for six wickets) 376, Fall of wickets: 1-63, 2-102, 3-191, 4-214, 5-288, 6-348.		
To bat K. More, S. Sharma, N. Hirwan.		
Bowling to date: Malcolm 25-1-106-1, Fraser 32-9-84-2, Lewis 24-3-108-1, Gooch 6-3-26-1, Hemmings 12-5-51.		

At Swanscombe: Glamorgan beat Warwickshire by five wickets. Warwickshire 443 for three declared in 110 overs and 212 for three declared (T. Moody 103 not out, A. Moles 83 not out). Glamorgan 373 for seven declared in 97 overs and 283 for five (A. Butcher 116, M. Maynard 56, V. Richards 65 not out). Glamorgan 20 points Warwickshire seven.

At Southport: Lancashire beat Nottinghamshire by seven wickets. Lancashire 452 in 108 overs and 130 for three (G. Lloyd 59 not out), Nottinghamshire 395 in 94 overs and 373 (P. Johnson 82, D. Randall 68). Lancashire 24 points Nottinghamshire four.

At Arundel: Sussex v Hampshire match drawn. Sussex 383 for nine declared in 121 overs and 144 for seven declared. Hampshire 254 for five declared in 98 overs (C. Smith 132 not out) and 220 for six (C. Smith 61). Sussex five points Hampshire six.

At Leicestershire: Leicestershire v Essex match drawn. Essex 197 in 66.3 overs and 349 for seven declared (J. Stephenson 131 not out, D. Pringle 48). Leicestershire 301 in 102.3 overs and 141 for five. Leicestershire seven points Essex five.

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At Scarborough: Yorkshire v Somerset match drawn. Somerset 401 for seven declared in 104.5 overs and 211 for seven declared (N. Burns 72, J. Cook 53). Yorkshire 303 for six declared in 99.5 overs and 316 for seven (R. Blakey 111, S. Keight 57, P. Robinson 44). Yorkshire and Somerset six points each.

At Canterbury: Kent v Middlesex match drawn. Kent 449 for two declared in 123.1 overs and 140 (S. Marsh 61, J. Emburey three for 20). Middlesex 308 for three declared in 81.2 overs and 276 for eight (M. Ramprakash 125, M. Gatting 101; S. De Villiers six for 70). Kent five points Middlesex four.

Williams told the Associated Press the two were told to report to the Amsterdam police for permission to stay in the Netherlands and then go to the Roman Catholic Immigration Bureau in The Hague.

Williams' plan was to remain in the Netherlands until he could find work. The episode began on the championships' final day Thursday, when two of the Iranians walked into the American consulate in Amsterdam and asked for political asylum in the United States, according to Leonardo Williams, a spokesman for the US embassy in The Hague.

The three were part of a 125-metre Iranian delegation at the 1990 world championships for the disabled, held in the northern Dutch city of Assen.

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